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The same and playfully The that they are willing to soften their position," said the dithem Work the State of the last plomat, who asked not to be The state of the state of the The state of the s Sbeikh Zayed, in the strongest statement by a Gulf Korea Korea names partahi a Arab leader, last week urged Arab countries to "try to turn Something playered by the the page of the past and cooperate" to alleviate the The property transfer has keep A STATE OF STREET suffering of the Iraqi people due to United Nations sanctions imposed since Iraq's 1990 invasioo of Kuwait. Mistaken quote He also called on Kuwait

offends Iranians CALLD ALLONS ! An adol by J like House deployed the

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i merci Antonia sedeli a Advisor Androny Lake with its former occupier. The end occurred as so Kuwaiti officials said the reported and the summit that starts on Special representatives to the Middle East and North Africa (EMNA) economic summit that starts on Special representatives to the Middle East and North Africa (EMNA) economic summit that starts on Special representatives Africa (E) summit that in Amman.

That with A fifth "Kuwait will attend, but who are the names? This has not come to my office yet," said another foreign ministry official.

Al Seyasseb newspaper the document of the document of the manufacture of the document of the docum

Mestiri tables new Afghan peace plan

KABUL (AP) — A special United Nations envoy has tabled a new KABUL (AP) — A special United Nations envoy has tabled a new power-sharing proposal for war-ravaged Afghanistan as part of a peace initiative, a senior political leader said Tuesday. U.N. special envoy Mahmoud Mestin met with Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani and discussed the proposal, which would ultimately lead to the president's ouster. The plan was unveiled for Mr. Rabbani amid the sound of exploding shells less than five kilometres from the capital Kabul. Rebel gummen from the Taliban milital exchanged heavy rocket and mortar fire with government forces Tuesday along the southern outskirts of the city. Mr. Mestin's proposal calls for the creation of an interim ruling council composed of about 10 Afghan leaders from various ruling council composed of about 10 Afghan leaders from various warring factions, said influential political and religious leader Ayatollah Mohammad Fazil. "the council may include former Afghan King Zahir Shah and former President Sebgatullah Mujadidi, Ayatollah Fazil said. A spokesman for the government said Mr. Rabbani had oot decided on whether to agree to the interior council." interim council.



UAE wants U.N. help to solve island row

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Tuesday called for the United Nations to intervene in its long-standing dispute with Iran over three strategic islands in the Gulf. UAE Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Sultan Ben Zeyed Al Nahayan said in New York that "Iran's occupation of our three islands poses a direct threat for security in the region and for the emirates in particular." Quoted by the official agency WAM, he called on the U.N. to intervene to solve the dispute over the islands of Abu Muss and the Greater and Lesser Tunbs. "The islands of Abu Musa, and the Greater and Lesser Tunbs. 'The peoples and the countries of the region are hoping for a greater role by the U.N. to remedy the problems and allow the residents of this part of the world to live in peace and stability." The UAE has called on Iran several times to open talks on the future of the islands which perch at the mouth of the Straits of Hormuz through which a fifth of the world's crude is shipped. It has also urged Tehran to take the row to the International Court of Justice in the

Volume 19 Number 6055 AMMAN WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1995, JUMADA THANI 2, 1416

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Jordan to finalise \$300m in loans, \$200m in investments next week

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan is scheduled to finalise soft loans worth about \$300 million on the fringes of next week's Middle East and North Africa summit and the funds will be used to increase the Kingdom's foreign exchange reserves. Finance Minister

Basel Jardaneh said Tuesday. The signing of the credits and the expected finalisation of financing arrangements for private sector projects worth an extra \$200 million are seen as among some of the most important events surrounding

"These are the guaranteed

minimum expectations," said an informed source. "The amount of financing for private sector projects could definitely go up, as can government-level assistance to Jordan to belp implement infrastructure projects."

The source, who did not want to be identified, declined to discuss details of the private sector projects, but said intense contacts were under way to finalise them during the summit itself.

The finalisation of the loan accords revolving around the summit is seen as highly symbolic for Jordan since it would reflect international confidence in the Kingdom's economic performance and monetary stability - two elements that the country could use to its best advantage at the gathering itself.
Mr. Jardaneh said \$307

million would come in loans to the government order three separate agreements; a \$135 million credit from the government of Japan in a "retroactive" arrangement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF); an \$80 million loan, also from the Japanese government in a bilateral accord, and cofinanced with a matching amount by the World Bank in

"The Japanese credits come in realisation of the pledge made by Prime Minister Tomijcbi Murayama" during his visit to Jordan in September, Mr. Jardaneh told the Jordan Times.

The actual pledge made by Mr. Murayama was for \$200 million, but with the finalisation of the agreements the amount rose to \$215 million, the minister noted.

Another \$12 million under co-financing arrangements will come from the Italian government, but it was not known when the accord will be signed. The finance minister ex-

plaioed that the "retroactive" arrangement for \$135 million with the IMF meant that the

(Continued on page 7)

Regent: MENA summit should spur bureaucrats, private sector

FOLLOWING ARE excerpts of an interview that the Jerusalem Report conducted with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in early October. The interview appeared in the Nov. 2 issue of the magazine.

OUESTION: Crown Prince Hassan, it seems that other than the Amman summit, the main thing that came out of Casablanca was a deep suspicion of Israeli motives, with Israel being seen as a hi-tech supereconomy that wants to begemonise the weaker economies of the region? ANSWER: Yes, there is this feeling. And I some-times wonder if it wasn't created as a useful bogeyman by those who oppose the peace process. We in Jordan have been given the opportunity to set our sights not on Israeli

Kuwait

'softens'

position

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — Kuwait told the United Arab

Emirates (UAE) on Tuesday

it was willing to normalise

Knwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al

Jaber Al Sabah told UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ben

Sultan Al Nahayan in talks that his country "is willing to

cormalise relations" with

Arab countries that were per-

ceived to back Iraq, an Arab

to reconcile with Arab states

that were sympathetic to Iraq in the Golf war.

UAE leader that lifting the

sanctions on Iraq was in the hands of the U.N. Security

Council, suggesting Kuwait is

not considering reconciliation

Sbeikb Sabah told the

The Kuwaitis sent signals

diplomat told Reuters.

plomatic soorces said.

achievements, but on the Asian rim of Europe, and to redouble our efforts to get off the IMF books as soon as is humanly possible. The opposition should also be aware that when we speak, for example, of a free-trade area north of the Red Sea on Jordanian and Israeli soil, we are looking at an improvement of standards and management that will enable us both to bring the region into the world. We have to break out of our parochialism. Q: How feasible is to

speak of major proposals

such as efficient regional

power and water management, when Syria, Lebanon and Iraq aren't even participating?

A: You're night, it is very difficult to talk about a regional identity and coop-eration with all these absences. But at least the summit can restate the obvious, if you will, in that we have to develop a matrix of regional hopes and aspirations, and fill in compartments in the forums that are avail-

Q: Jordan has been, and will be, pitching strongly for investment in its own economy. Why should Jordan be an attractive prop-osition to foreign inves-

A: I can't speak for the millions of dollars in new

issues on the Jordanian stock exchange since January, but an important point is that according to international credit ratings, we do have a more solid achievement than at any time in the past. Exchange rates have been stable for the last three years, inflation is down from 25 per cent to four per cent, the deficit-GDP ratio has remained below three per cent and domestic savings are increasing. By any objective

Q: And the welledocated but cheap labour

criteria you care to name, I

believe it's time to myest

He urged the world to match its "nice and noble (Continued on page 7) words" with deeds.

American Senate votes to shift embassy to Jerusalem

WASHINGTON (Agencies) - The U.S. Senate voted overwhelmingly Tuesday to move the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem by 1999, but gave President Bill Clinton the option ties with Arab states that of extending the deadline inwere sympathetic to Iraq in the 1990-1991 Gulf crisis, didefinitely.

The House of Representatives also geared for quick action on the measure, which has put the Clinton administratioo oo the spot as a supporter of Israel but the key broker in the Middle East

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) warned Washington against transferring the embassy, saying it would jeopardise its role in

the peace process. "If such a measure were role of an impartial mediator in the Middle East peace process which would put it in grave danger," Faisal Hus-seini who is in charge of the Jerusalem file within the Palestinian National Author-

ity (PNA), told AFP. President Clinton bas already threatened to veto the bill to transfer the embassy saying it would undermine Wasbiogton's role in the peace process.

Senate majority leader Bob Dole watered down bis bill after it went before the U.S. senate.

He cut out a requirement that work on a new embassy should start before the end of 1996, and introduced an unlimited number of six-month waivers if the president de-

It was passed by a vote of 93-5. Mr. Dole watereddown the bill with the waiver provision in a bid to attract more than two thirds of the Senate which would be needed to override a presidential veto.

The House of Representatives was expected to follow close on the Senate's heels, voting on the same version of the bill as early as Tuesday afternoon, House aides said.

"This bill is on the fasttrack because they want to get it on the president's desk by the end of the week," said John Feehery, a spokesman for House majority whip Tom Delay. There was no immediate

Mr. Izetbegovic's remarks were especially poignant be-cause the United Nations has been tryiog unsuccessfully since 1992 to bring peace to his country. NATO is planning to send a 60,000-

place U.N. troops if the United States can broker a peace agreement and succeed

cides they are "necessary to reaction from the White implemented it would mean protect the national security that the United States would no longer be able to play the interests of the United (Continued on page 7) 'Iraq and UAE to launch

contacts to lift sanctions'

Saddam Hussein as presi-

United Nations to rally sup-

on Saturday, the UAE news

agency WAM said Sheikh

In a report from New York

port for the call.

CAIRO (Agencies) - Iraq and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) could begin contacts soon after Abu Dhabi's policy turnaround calling for a lifting of U.N. sanctions against Baghdad, an Iraqi official said here Tuesday.

'Iraq never cut relations with the UAE, which it considers a sister nation linked to it by a common future and interests," Iraq's representative to the Arab League in Cairo, Nabil Najm, told the

"Iragi-UAE contacts could begin as soon as possible in light of the call by (UAE President) Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan" for a bfting of sanctions to alleviate the suffering of the Iraqis, Mr. Naim said.

Mr. Najm made the comments after a meeting with Arab League head Esmat Abdul Meguid to discuss the UAE's initiative which Sheikh Zaved announced earlier this month and which

Sultan Ben Zayed Al Nahayan, the UAE deputy has won the backing of Qatar, Yemen and the Palesprime minister, met Kuwait's tine Liberation Organisation emir, Sbeikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, Bot Kuwait bas rejected

It gave no details of the the call for a lifting of the meeting but diplomats said it embargo imposed on Iraq after it invaded the emirate in apparently focused on Sheikh Zayed's call for an end to the August 1990. Mr. Najm said Sheikh Zayed's call "was wise and

The Al Asharq Al Awsat daily said Tuesday the UAE courageous and Iraq welwants to send "humanitariao comes it. The time bas come assistance" to Baghdad. to talk about reorganising The Arabic-language inter-Arab relations, espeoewspaper said the UAE cially after the reelection of foreign ministry will seek spe-

cial permission from the U.N. Security Council for the "Currently there are developments from the emishipment. rates to put their initiative into action," Mr. Najm added, pointing to UAE The London-based newsрарет, which publishes simultaneously in the Gulf, quoted 'informed sources" in Abu Foreign Minister Rashid Dhabi as saying the aid would be collected through local Abdullah's intention to meet his Arab counterparts at the

charity organisations. The report did not specify what the UAE intends to

(Continued on page 7)

King meets Prince Sultan, predicts stronger-than-ever bilateral relations

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

NEW YORK — His Majesty King Hussein has held talks with Sai di Defence Minister Prince Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz in the first such highlevel contacts between the two countries after the 1991 Gulf war and said afterwards that he expected Jordanian-Saudi relations to be stronger than ever.

Speaking to the press after the meeting on the fringes of the U.N.'s 50th anniversary celebrations here, the King said he and Prince Sultan reviewed Jordanian-Saudi relations with a view to expanding cooperation to serve the interests of the peoples of the two countries.

Inter-Arab relations, the King said, depended largely upon the degree of cooperation between the countries concerned and voiced optimism that relations among Arabs would soon see a positive change.

accept a peace plan that led to the division of bis country.

world leaders in history.

'equipped, financed and

structured to serve effectively

the peoples in whose name it

was established" (see page 12)

biggest U.N. debtor, owing

\$1.3 billion. In all, member

states owe the United Na-

tions \$3 billion. The debt has

thrown the organisation into

U.N. sources, speaking on

condition of anonymity, said

the United States raised

objections to the declara-

tion's language during initial

discussions. But the Clinton

administration dropped its

reservations after its Euro-

pean allies insisted on the

member force there to re-

where the United Nations has

provision.

its worst financial crisis.

The United States is the



His Majesty King Hussein with Saudi Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Prince Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz in New York on Tuesday (Petra photo)

The King said the Arab World and the Middle East were undergoing a change for the better.

The King paid tribute to the achievements of the United Nations, but said he boped that the world body would reconsider its current situation so that it could re-

flect the realities of today rather than 50 years ago, when it was established. Prince Sultan told repor-

ters that his meeting with the King was not a "new start" in Jordanian-Saudi relations but an extension of the "unique relations between the two

Prince Sultan said relations between Saudi King Fabd and King Hussein were based on Arab fraternity and

brotherhood. The Jordan News Agency. Petra, said the King and Prince Sultan stressed the

(Continued on page 7)

Jordan satisfied by course U.N. of peace treaty with Israel event draws AMMAN (J.T.) - His safeguard the peace process," Prince Hassan said. The Regent noted that Royal Highness Crown to end

Prince Hassan, the Regent, has expressed satisfaction with the pace of cooperation between Israel and Jordan in UNITED NATIONS (AP) paving the ground for a new - Bosnia's President Alija economic reality and stability in the Middle East region. Izetbegovic, speaking on the last day of the U.N.'s 50th Speaking in an interview with Israel Television, the anniversary jamboree, said Tuesday he would never Regent said that the state of

in the welcome they received here following decades of hostilities. Mr. Izetbegovic spoke as The peace treaty, he said, world leaders prepared to adhas paved the ground for journ their three-day session - the largest gathering of

mutual cooperation based on confidence and regional development. U.N. members are expected to accept a declaration calling for a United Nations

no opposition to the peace treaty in the Arab World, as many people are holding on to their objection to Jewish-Arab dialogue, but there is keenness on both sides to

relations was evident in the

visits of Israelis to Jordan and

"I can not say that there is

Israel and Jordan signed more than 18 agreements

since the peace treaty, and expressed hope that the two sides would, in the coming few years, implement them and embark on joint invest-"I hope that the coming era will witness development

in the social, economic and security fields," he added. He said the agreements between the two sides will be of benefit to all the parties in

the peace process. "I believe that we achieved a great benefit by overcoming the barriers of the past and to plan for the future," he

added. He told his interviewer that Jordanian professional asso-ciations had reservations about normalisation of relations with Israel as they still adhere to their declared stands with regard to comprehensive solutions.

But, he said, the majority supports the peace process as it opens up new avenues for cooperation with the world.

He said Jordanians, Palestinians and Israelis were seeking to ensure the restora-tion of all parties' rights. He said one has to be patient with sceptics.

In reply to a question about Jordan's hopes from the Amman economic conference, the Prince said that the participation of 63 nations in the event was clear evidence that the world community was interested in seeing the regional countries pursuing

the drive towards peace. Agreements reached between Jordan, Israel and the Palestinians concerning various fields represent positive

(Continued on page 7)

Jordan, Israel sign police agreement; trade, agriculture accords this week

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

JORDAN AND ISRAEL on Tuesday signed an agreement on security issues and cooperation between law enforcement agencies. It was the first of three accords to be signed by the two sides this week as part of more than 20 agreements called for in the Oct.

26 Jordan-Israel peace treaty. Tuesday's accord was signed at Beit Gabriel oo the shores of Lake Tiberias in northern Israel by Interior Minister Salameh Hammad, whose ministry is directly in charge of police, and Israeli Police Minister Moshe Shah-

Following the signing cere-(Continued on page 7) mony, both ministers de-

scribed the accord very significant in that it provides close interaction between the police forces of the two sides in fighting drug trafficking

and abuse and crimes.

It is the first agreement in police affairs between Israel and an Arab country. Egypt, which signed a peace accord with Israel in 1978, does not have a similar agreement.

According to police Major-General Mohammad Tarazi, the agreement covers cooperanon in the fight against drug trafficking, investigating cases of murder, fraud, forgery, theft of artefacts and other fraudulent acts and in forensic science and ex-

change of expertise. The accord does not cover extradition since it is a judi-

cial issue not a police matter, Maj.-Gen. Tarazi said. A telephone hotline will be

set up between the police commands of the two countries and a joint commission will start work in two months on implementing the agree-

Mr. Shahal said at the signing that "we will make every effort to prevent crime from prospering and drug traffickers from operating along our common borders." Officials said meanwhile the ministers of trade from the two sides will sign a much-delayed agreement on trade on Wednesday on the Israeli side of the Dead Sea. On Thursday the ministers of

(Continued on page 7)

'Magic World' agreement not binding, did not cause any loss, government says

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government said Sunday it had incurred no losses as a result of signing of an agreement between the state-run Aqaba Regional Authority (ARA) and an American company under which a multi-million dollar recreation park was supposed to have been built at Agaba.

Without directly referring to a local newspaper report that said the "Magic World" company, which signed the accord that involved \$130 million in investments, was a fake ennity with a \$200 capital, an official statement issued after a Council of

Ministers meeting said the in this context, it added agreement, signed on Oct. 5. The agreement was sign was not binding on the gov-ernment since it had not been approved by the ARA board of directors and the Cabinet.

"Magic World negotiated with the ARA to build a large tourism project and reached an initial agreement," said the statement, carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra. The Cabinet had not been informed of the initial agreement, which was in any case subject to an investigation to 'ascertain the company's ability to implement the project" as agreed, it said.

No contracts were awarded in relation to the project and "neither the government nor the ARA incurred any loss"

The agreement was signed by ARA President Fayez Khasawneh and Magic World Manager Richard Ligon, Petra reported on Oct. 5. It quoted Dr. Khasawneh as

saying that the project would be implemented with the sup-port of the government and describing it as a impetus to tourism in Jordan and an effort to transform Aqaba as part of a "Red Sea Riviera." Under the agreement,

Magic World would build a 256-room hotel and 200 chalets along with an entertainment park on 400 dunums in Aqaba, Dr. Khasawneh, said then, adding that the company was to provide the funding for the project and

the ARA was to soon offer shares to the public through the Amman Financial Mar-

Senior government sources Tuesday said that an American holding firm, Makad group had undertaken a study to set up a public shareholding Jordanian company under the name JADCO, grouping Jordanian. Arab and foreign partners. However, the sources said, the proposed company had not so far been established.

Finance Minister Basel Jardaneh said that a "letter of intent" had been prepared by the ARA on the tourism investment project on the

(Continued on page 7)

China leaves door open for Iranian nuclear deal

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Chinese President Jiang Zemin left open the possibility Monday that Beijing might proceed with a contract to build civilian nuclear reactors in Iran under international supervision, Israeli diplomats said.

In a meeting with Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Mr. Jiang noted that it had suspended its 1992 contract to build two reactors for Iran and assured that there was no security threat

for Israel, the diplomats said.

But, according to the Israeli sources, Mr. Jiang said that if Beijing did go ahead with the project, it would meet three conditions: - The reactors would be exclusively for civilian pur-

— The project would be internationally supervised;
— Beijing would guarantee that nuclear technology

would not be transferred to third parties. Mr. Rabin and Mr. Jiang met on the sidelines of the ceremonies for the U.N.

General Assembly. Mr. Rabin warned Mr. Jiang against going ahead with the project, citing "the negative role of Iran in supporting international terrorism and extremist groups in the Middle East," a diplomat

U.S. officials said earlier this month that China had assured Washington it would not give or sell nuclear technology to Iran, which heads the U.S. list of "terrorist"

The United States also has been pressing Russia to cancel its nuclear contract with Tehran, but so far Moscow has ignored Washington's

Balshakov visit delayed

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Balshakov postponed a visit to Tehran for talks on the Caspian Sea expected on Tuesday, the daily Iran News reported. It said the visit would take place 10 days later, without

giving a reason. Iran and Russia bave joined forces to draw up a new legal status for the Caspian to keep its abundant resources from being exploited unilaterally by former Soviet republics bordering its

Mr. Balshakov is to submit a proposal for an international convention to govern the sea, Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Maleki said

The convention calls for a collective sharing of the Caspian's natural resources, ruling out any partition by the five countries bordering it, he

The Soviet Umon's col-lapse in 1991 gave rise to three independent states bordering the Caspian, creating a need for the revision of treaties signed in 1921 and 1940 and 1940 between Iran and the Soviet Union on the sea's legal status.

The largest closed sea in the world, the Caspian has an area of 430,000 square kilometres and horders Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan besides Iran and Russia

Meanwhile, Russian De-fence Minister Pavel Grachev will not visit Iran this year as bad been reported, bis spokeswoman said.

"The minister has no firm plans to visit Iran," Yelena Agapova told Reuters. "He might go there but definitely not this year."

ITAR-TASS news agency last week quoted a military spokesman as saying Mr. Grachev had accepted an invitation from Iranian Ambassador Mehdi Safari for a visit which was likely to take place before the end of the year.



AGREEMENT SIGNED: Interior Minister Salameh Hammad (centre) and Israeli Police Minister Moshe Shahal on Tuesday sign an agreement on cooperation in security affairs and fighting drugs and crimes at a ceremony held near Lake Tiberias (see story on page one) (Petra photo)

Rabin and Qatari ministers meet for first time in public

DOHA (AFP) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak

It said Interior Minister Sheikh Abdullah Ben Khalifa Al Thani and Foreign Minis-ter Sheikh Hamad Ben Jassem Ben Jaber Al Thani met Mr. Rabin on Monday on the sidelines of ceremonies mark-

The meeting focused on the latest developments in the Middle East peace process," the agency said.

Although it was the first public meeting with Mr. Rabin, Qatari officials have since 1994 held several rounds of talks with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who last met Sheikh Hamad in September.

premature to establish diplomatic ties with Israel although it was possible to Arabia, and the United Arab establish economie relations. Emirates.

Last year, Doha said it was ready to sell natural gas to

It is involved in two multibillion dollar projects to develop liquified natural gas in the North Field, with its reserves estimated at 7.079 trillion cubic metres.

These are the third biggest in the world after Russia and

Qatar and the other Gulf Arab countries in September 1994 lifted the indirect boycott on companies doing business with Israel.

in July, Qatar said it would open a diplomatic mission in the autonomous Palestinian territories, the first such step from a Gulf Arab country.

Oman, the only Gulf state to have officially bosted a visit by Mr. Rabin, said in October it had agreed to open trade offices with the Jewish state, in another first for a Gulf Cooperation

are Bahrain, Kuwait, Sandi

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police kill suspect in southern Egypt

CAIRO (AP) - Police raided a hideout on a farm in southern Egypt on Tuesday, killing a suspected militant. Police said the man opened fire as police approached the hideout in sugarcane fields outside Sohag, an impoverished region about 390 kilometres south of Cairo. The man was believed to be involved in a robbery of a bank and the killing of a policemen, police said. Sohag and other sonthern Egyptian provinces have been the site of a three-year campaign by militants to overthrow the government and install Islamic rule. More than 840 people, most of them militants and police, have died in the violence.

Israel cancels visas for Nigerians

TEL AVIV (R) - Israel said on Tuesday it bad cancelled visas for Nigerians wanting to make pilgrimages to the Holy Land because many pilgrims had stayed on illegally. "There have been cases of many Nigerian pilgrims who came and then stayed here as illegal workers. For this reason, visas have been cancelled," foreign ministry spokesman Ygal Palmor told Reuters. Mr. Palmor said the decision was taken recently but he could not give the numbers of pilgrims or illegal immigrants involved. "There is an ongoing discussion with Nigeria on how to renew pilgrimages under conditions that will allow visits to the holy places but prevent illegal immigration," he said. The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reported this week that flying to Israel by Nigerians for Christian pilgrimages had been suspended after "defections" by some. NAN said hundreds of the more than 8,000 Nigerians already in Israel for pilgrimages were reported to have disappeared from "camps" and to have taken refuge in other Middle East countries. Mr. Palmor said there were no camps for Nigerian pilgrims. He said they arranged accommodation in Israel the same as other tourists.

1967 war grenade kills child in Port Sald

CAIRO (AFP) - A child was killed and another injured the Seuz Canal town of Port Said when a hand grenade they discovered left over from the 1967 Middle East war exploded, the Egyptian daily Al Wafd reported Tuesday.

Mohammad Al Sayed Mansour, 12, found the grenade in a pile of iron scrap near his school on Monday. When it exploded, it hlew him hack 25 metres, killing the boy, Al Wafd said, quoting police. His schoolmate Sayed Rida Ramadan was seriously injured in the blast, the paper said. Port Said, 220 kilometres northeast of Cairo, was on the front lines of the 1967 war against Israel. The two countries signed a peace treaty 12 years later.

Kuwaitis seek forgiveness during solar eclipse

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) Kuwaitis prayed to be forgiven their sins Tuesday during the eclipse of the sun despite a government message that the event was not a sign of God's wrath. Mosques in Kuwait City broadcast prayers over their londspeakers imploring God to end the bour-long partial eclipse and forgive their sins. The Ministry of Religious Affairs published a message on Monday saying the eclipse was a natural phenomenon and was not "a sign of God's wrath. This is superstition." The eclipse, which was total in Sonth East Asia, was the first seen in the Gulf

At least 9 dead in West Bank crash

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) - At least nine people died in the Israeli-occupied West Bank when a lorry veered out of control and smashed into a line of cars on Tuesday, police said. Two cars, one of them taking Palestinians to work in Israel, burst into flames killing all their passengers. The Palestinian truck driver from East Jerusalem was among some 20 people injured. The crash near the Jewish settlement of Makkabim, 20 kilometres from Jerusalem. prompted the Israeli parliament to call a special session the same day to debate the high number of fatal road accidents.

18 U.S. warplanes due in Bahrain this week

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States will soud 18 F-16 fighter jets to Bahrain beginning this week to belo face any threat to the Guir from Iraq in the absence of a U.S. aircraft carrier in the area, the Pentagon said.

The fighters will begin arriving in the emirate on Saturday for a temporary deployment after the carrier independence left the area last week. The Independence will be replaced by the carrier Nimitz in early January and the F-16s will not remain in Bahrain beyond Dec. 31.

The U.S. already has about 200 air force warplanes in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia on a long-term basis to offset any threat to moderate Gulf states from Iraq and Iran,

The new squadron will be made up of jets from Moody Air Force Base in Georgia and Shaw AF in South Caro-

"The deployment was based upon consultations between the State of Bahrain, the U.S. and other states in the Gulf to cover gaps after the departure of a U.S. aircraft carrier from the region," the Pentagon said.
"The deployment will be

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temporary and will last no later than Dec. 31," the brief statement added. The U.S. bas sharply

beefed up its military pre-sence in the oil-rich Gulf since a U.S.-led military coalition defeated Iraq and drove its military forces from Kuwait in the 1991 Gulf war. But navy officials say pri-vately that U.S. hudget cuts

have forced a gap between deployments of aircraft carriers in the region due to the high cost of operating the big Each of the big carriers is

home base to more than 50 warplanes and a crew of some The Pentagon currently has enough weaponry and

equipment to supply a U.S. armoured brigade stationed in Kuwait. Qatar has also agreed to accept equipment for a brigade, but Saudi Arabia has resisted accepting such American weapons. The state of Bahrain has

approved the deployment of these aircraft until the 31st of December," the official told Bahrain's official Gulf News Agency, without saying when the deployment would begin.

Last week a senior U.S. military official said Washington wanted to position 30 air force planes in Bahrain to maintain a regular presence in the Gulf even when the aircraft carrier which rotates in the area is there.

A U.S. official in the region said last Wednesday that two U.S. warships with cruise missiles bad been ordered to stay within striking range of Iraq to cover the departure of the aircraft carrier from the Gulf.

The USS Independence, which has about 70 warplanes on board, left the Gulf last Tuesday and will not be replaced immediately, the official said. Meanwhile, 13 ships with

enough tanks and other military equipment for more than 20,000 troops were still in the Gulf as U.S. forces maintained the high state of readiness they have kept since Angust, the official said.

Light sentence predicted for UAE maid

ABU DHABI (R) — The 'Ain appeal court would head of a United Arab Emi- announce its ruling once it rates (UAE) appeal court said on Tnesday be expected Filipina maid Sarah Balabagan to face a bight prison term for killing her employer when a verdict is delivered on next

"Yon will hear a verdict on Oct. 30," Sheikh Biy'a Ben Saliq, head of the Al 'Ain Islamic Sharia appeal court, told Reuters. "I believe it will be a short prison sentence."

Ms. Balahagan earher this month escaped a death sentence when the family of the man she stabbed to death dropped their demand for her execution in exchange for \$41,000 in blood money. A lower court last month

condemned the young maid to death for the premeditated murder of Almas Mohammad Al Baloushi. It rejected her claim that she stabbed him 34 times in self-defence rape.

Judge Saliq said the Al

received formal notice from Ms. Balahagan's attorney that she had agreed to pay the blood money.

One of Ms. Balabagan's lawyers, Salman Lotfi, said ber defence team would lodge the notice on Oct. 30. "If the notice is filed on that day there will be a verdict." said Judge Saliq.

He said the fact that the family accepted the blood money would not influence the court's ruling.

"It could be a long prison term or a short one. It has nothing to do with the family's dropping the death sent-ence... I think it will be a short one," Judge Saliq

A short prison term could effectively mean that Ms. Balabagan would soon be free because she has already served 15 months m Al A prison during her trials.

The appeal court had not

been expected to return ver-dict on Oct. 30. But judicial officials and diplomats said the UAE, angered by an international outcry over the death sentence, was eager to put a swift end to the case.

Ms. Balahagan's death sentence triggered fury in the Philippines, reigniting ontrage that swept the country after another Filipina maid, Flor Contemplacion, was hanged in Singapore for dou-ble murder in March.

The Baloushi family had rejected several government approaches for demency but dropped their insistence on the death sentence being carried out in exchange for blood money after President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan intervened personally and urged mercy.

At her first trial Ms. Balabagan was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to seven years imprisonment. so awarded compensation after the court concluded she had been raped.

Rabin met Qatar's foreign and interior ministers at U.N. headquarters in New York,

in his first such public encounter, the official news agency QNA reported Tues-

ing the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

Qatar said on Oct. 4 it was

Council (GCC) country.
The other GCC members

Tourism a potential goldmine for Palestinians

CAIRO (AFP) — Tourism represents one of the few chances for Palestinians to carn money for their nascent self-rule, especially with the upcoming 2,000th amiversary of the birth of Christ, a study here said.

Tourism is "one of the few opportunities that Palestine possesses at least in the short term to stimulate economic development, create jobs and generate essential hard exchange," British consultant Peter Kendell said in his report.

"Because of restrictive policies by Israel, the Arab tourism sector suffers a quantitative and qualitative disadvantage in comparison to Israel's." Mr. Kendel

But Palestinians can exploit the continuing interest of tourists to the Holy Land "located primarily in the

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occupied territories," espe-cially East Jerusalem and the West Bank towns of Hebron, Bethlebem, Jericho and Nablus.

Mr. Kendel submitted the report at the 11th general assembly of the World Tourism Organisation (WTO) in Cairo last week. "With peace in the Holy Land and the advent of the 2,000-year anniversary of the hirth of Christ a signifi-

cant increase in tourism is expected," the study said. But the study warned that up to 80,000 new hotel rooms were needed in the Palestinian territories and around 10,000 more workers are needed in the tour-

ism sector. The Palestinian National Authority (PNA) running the Gaza Strip and soon to take over towns in the West Bank, under the self-rule accords between the Pales-

Church of the Annunciation Tci. Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel.

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German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tcl: 345457
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tcl. 654932
Church of Nazarene Tcl.675691.
The Evangelical Local Church in

Armeni: 771331.

an Catholic Church Tel.

ian Orthodox Church Tel.

tine Liberation Organisa-tion (PLO) and Israel, has its work cut-out for it. Only eight people work at the headquarters of its

tourism and antiquities agency set up in 1994 in Bethlehem. The study recommends a number of measures, from

the creation of a model artisan village to a reorga-nisation of the PA's tourism "ministry" costing more than 2.5 million dollars. Israel, which attracted 4.500 tourists in 1948, the

year of its creation, is expected to welcome 2.5 million visitors this year, bringing in 15 per cent of the country's hard currency.

Last year, 28 per cent of the tourists came for religious pilgrimage, making Bethlehem, the birthplace of Christ and the second most visited site in the Holy Land after Jerusalem, a

particularly valuable asset. But Bethlehem has hardly any hotels or restaurants. the study said.

the study said.

tion has stopped Arab tourism investment in the region since 1967 and has neglected its infrastructure such as roads and water

the territories, most of them in East Jerusalem. compared to 65 Israeli

The number of Palestinian tour guides, who must be licenced by Israel, has dropped from 300 to only 80, half of whom have all but retired.

There are only 81 Palestinians tourist agencies, commany Israeli transport companies as Palestinian. The only Arab company

to be given permission to

collect tourists at Israel's

Ben Gurion airport has lost

its permit and there is still no Palestinian airport, although plans have been put forward. Gaza has the only Palestinian beach, "but the best parts, more than 40 per

cent, are part of Israeli set-tlements," the study said. At Hebron, where 400 Israeli settlers live among 120,000 Palestinians, cars from the territories can not enter the old city and visitors must announce their religion before entering the Ibrahimi Mosque.

pared to 450 Israeli ones, Gaza and the West Bank "possess substantial reand there are 10 times as

sources for developing international, regional and domestic Arab tourism," But the Israeli occupa-

Without Israeli permits to build. Arabs own only 39 hotels with 2,474 rooms in

hotels with 8,000 rooms in West Jerusalem.

| PROGRAMME TWO |
|----------------------------------|
| 14:00 Madeline |
| 14:30 Ghost Writers |
| 15:00 Tomorrow's World |
| 15:30 Amazing Storics |
| 16:00 1 Love Lucy |
| 16:30 Tarazan |
| 17:08 |
| Children's Programme — Cocotte |
| Minute |
| 17:30 Jeux |
| 19:90 News in French |
| 19:15 |
| |
| Magazine — Sports Et Musique |
| 19:30 News Headlines |
| 19:35 Doc. — Amazing Races |
| 20:00 Anything for a Laugh |
| 20:30 The Bold and the Beautiful |
| 21:15 The Other Americas |
| 22:00 News in English |
| 22:25 Prism |
| 22:45 Drama — Law and Order |
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| 23:45 Doc. — Silk Road |
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Mary of Nazareth Church : iffeh, Tel. \$10740

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WEATHER

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Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 27 Aqaba 31. Humidity readings: Amman 34 per cent. Aqaba 32 per cent.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

USEFUL

| AMMAN: | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Dr. Nidal Al As'ad | . 751672 |
| Dr. Yousef Al Faqih | . 790194 |
| Dr. Mazen Nbali | . 830435 |
| Dr. Abdul Rahim Mustafa | 744685 |
| Fires pharmacy | . 661912 |
| Ferdows pharmacy | . 778336 |
| Al Asema pharmacy | |
| Nairoukh pharmacy | . 623672 |
| Al Salam pharmacy | . 636730 |
| Yacoub pharmacy | . 644945 |
| Shmcisani pharmacy | |
| Natroujh pharmacy | 623672 |
| Najib pharmacy | 847632 |
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Dr. Ali Shoqairi

Dr. Akram Haddad 985550 Khalifeh pharmacy 985417 **EMERGENCIES** Food Control Centre 637111

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| Traffic Police 896390 |
| Public Security Department 630321 |
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| Jordan Television 773111 |
| Radio Jordan 774111 |
| Water Authority 680100 |
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Electric Power

RJ Flight Information 08-53200 Queen Alia Insl. Airport 08-53200 HOSPITALS AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32

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| Akilch Maternity, J. Amn. |
| 642441/2 |
| Jabal Amman Maternity 642362 |
| Malhas, J. Amman 636140 |
| Palestine, Shmeisani 607071 |
| Shmcisani Hospital 669131 |
| University Hospital 845845 |
| Al-Mussher Hospital 667227/9 |
| The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37 |
| Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6 |
| Italian, Al-Muhajroca 777101/3 |
| Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775111/26 |
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| Queen Alia Hospital 6072240/50 |
| Amai Hospital 674155 |
| The Arab Centre for Heart and |
| Special Surgery 865199 |
| ZAROA: |
| Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital |
| Zarga National Hospital |
| (09)900\$80 |
| Ihn Sina Hospital (09)986732 |
| Al Hikma Modern Hospitzl (09)990990 |
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FOR THE TRAVELLER

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INTERNATIONAL

| 644281/6 | AIRPORT |
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| mity, J. Amn. 642441/2 | This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information |
| Maternity 642362 | department at the Queen Alia In- ternational Airport Tel. (08)53200- |
| meisani 607071 ospital 669131 | where it should always be veri- fied. |
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| 11:16 Tunis, Casablanca (R1) | Cabbage |
| 11:40 Istanbul (RJ) | Carrot |
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| 19:30 Agahn, Chico (P.1) | Cucumbers |
| 19:48 Beirus (RJ) | Cucumbers |
| 19:40 Bcirus (RJ) 29:00 Calcutta, Dhahran (RJ) | Eggplant |
| 20:10 Riyadh, Dhahran (RJ) | Garlie |
| 20:10 New Delhi (R.I) | Grapes |
| 20:30 Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ) | Grape Fruit |
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| HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN |
| Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every Monday Arr. Damascas 5:00 p.m. every Monday Dep. Damascas 7:30 a.m. every Sunday Arr. Amassa 5:00 p.m. every Sunday |
| MARKET PRICES |
| Upper/lower price in fils per kg. |
| Apple 700/ 500 Banana 640 Banana (Mukammur) 620 Cabbage 200 / 150 Carrot 420/350 Cauliflower 270/170 Cucumbers (arge) 200 / 150 Cucumbers (small) 350 / 250 Eggplant 220/ 150 Gartie 750/600 Grapes 600/500 Grapes 600/500 Marrow (large) 150/ 160 Marrow (small) 251/ 170 Olives (green) 400/200 Onion (dry) 250/ 150 Orange 500/400 Pepper (but) 200/ 150 Pepper (sweet) 200/ 150 Pepper (sweet) 200/ 50 Pomegranate 380/260 Polato 340/ 250 |
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WASHINGTON (R) - 1)
United States will seed
F-In righter jets to Bell
beginning this week be
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"The deployment; hased upon consultation tween the State of Bale the US and other size the Ciult to cover page the departure of a U. craft carrier from the gion," the Pentagon The deployment of temporary and will be later than Dec. 31," they statement added

The 1 S. has shar beeted up its military i sence in the oil-net since a U.S.-led mk condition defeated lize: stone its military forest Kuwait in the 1991 Gute But navy officials an! vately that U.S. budget have forced a gap less deployments of arms a rices in the region dien; nigh cost of operating their

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ESDAY, OCTOBER &



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday meets with visiting Norwegian Bishop, Andreas Aarflot (second left) at the Royal Court. The Bishop was accompanied by other clergy from Norway and Lebanon and Norwegian Ambassador to Jordan Tove Kijewski (third right) (photo by Boghos)

Regent, visiting Norwegian bishop discuss ways to promote inter-faith dialogue

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday conferred with the Bishop of Oslo, Norway, Andreas Aarflot, who praised the role of the Hashemites in promoting inter-faith dialogue for better understanding between followers of different reli-

Prince Hassan urged the bisbop to help eliminate what he called "Islamopho-

the Jordanian Sports Feder-

ation of the Handicapped

(JSFH), Tuesday accompa-

nied 17 physically disabled

athletes from France to

Petra and the neighbouring

Taybet Zaman tourist cen-

In a statement later, the

Prince said the visiting del-

egation, which represents

the French Federation of

the Handicapped Without

Frontiers, will participate in

a ceremony to be held in Aqaba Thursday to mark

the first anniversary of the

Jordan-Israel Peace Treaty.

He said the ceremony will

Jordanian, Israeli and

French athletes to compete

PETRA (Petra) - His include sports competi-

Royal Highness Prince tions, the largest of which

Ra'd Ben Zeid, chairman of are a 1300-metre swim meet

in Aqaba, Eilat and Taba

bia" and the stereotypical attitudes towards Islam.

The Crown Prince asked Bishop Aarflot to join him in promoting the spirit of tolerance and understanding among nations.

President of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (AL al Bayt Foundation) Nassereddin Assad and Norwegian Ambassador to Jordan Tove Kijewski attended the meeting.

from Aqaba to Eilat, Israel

between disabled athletes

from Jordan, Israel and

France (from the visiting

team), and a nine-kilometre

wheel chair race from

Prince Ra'd said the Jor-

danian team last month

beld a 10- day training camp

in Eilat to prepare for the

He announced that the

three countries plan to

make this event an annual

competition. Next year, he

said, plans are to hold the

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Jordan Times

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Taba, to Eilat.

meet.

Bishop Aarflot who heads the Bible Society in Norway, met with members of the Institute of Interfaith Studies in Jordan to discuss the prospect of

ent faiths. The hishop, who arrived here from Cairo Sunday, is accompanied by the Secretary Geoeral of the Bible Society in Norway and the head of the Bible Society in

holding more dialogues between scholars of differ-

Lebanon.

He also met with the leaders of the Bible Society jo Jordan, according to a Norwegian embassy spokesper-

Bishop Aarflot heads the largest Lutheran church in

He and his delegation will head for the West Bank today oo the next leg of their tour of the region to meet members of bible

Orthodox council expresses dismay at awarding of 'peace prize' to Israeli leaders

AMMAN (J.T.) — The partriarch should restrict bead of the Central Orthodox Council in Jordan and Palestine, Raouf Abu Jaber, Tuesday said he was dismayed at the presentation of a "peace prize" by the bead of the Greek Orthodox Church in Jerusalem, Patriarch Deodoros I, to the Israeli Prime Minister and

Foreign Minister last week.

The patriarch and his assistants at the Orthodox Church of Jerusalem do oot represent the Arab Orthodox Community in Jordan and Palestine in their presentation of these prizes because such action was taken without any regard to Arab national feelings and aspirations, Dr. Abu Jaber told the Jordan Times.

"We demand that the Patriarch refrain from any similar actions which do not actually serve the cause of a just and comprehensive peace sought by the Arab nation," he said.

Dr Ahu Jaber, who said the Arab Orthodox Community in Jordan and Palestine currently numbers 200,000 members, added that the head of the church should abstain from involving himself in political and other actions that offend the Arah feelings. He said the

spiritual, cultural and pastoral affairs and should direct his atteotion to the improvement of the community's schools.

Dr. Abu Jaber said the cburch leader has oeglected the affairs of his patriarchate and ceeded its property and real estate, and tampered with these estates in the holy land.

The patriarch's presentation of the prize to the Israeli leaders earlier drew angry reactions from the community members in Jordan.

Fakhri Kawar, a prominent Jordanian writer and Michael Sindaha, leading community member hoth attacked Patriarch Deodoros' action and called on the Orthodox community to oust the Greek head of the church and replace him with an Arab leader.

In a written statement to the Jordan Times, Dr. Ahu Jaber appealed to the Orthodox Community in the region to introduce changes in the patriarchate's beirarchy and called on Arab governments and people to help protect the

Arab Orthodox heritage and rights in Palestine.

FILM

"Diamonds are Forever," at the British Council at 7:00

EXHIBITIONS

Paintings by Salam Kanaan and ceramics by Najwa Annab and Margaret Tadros at Alia Art Gallery.

*Paintings by Iraqi artists Nazem Hamed at Orfali Gallery.

*Paintings by Iraqi artist Saleh Jumai'i at Ab'ad Gallery. *Paintings by Shakir Hassan Al-Said at the French Cultural Centre. Posters on Louis Pasteur's achievements.

*A Retrospective Exhibition of Sculptures and Drawings (1965-1995) by Mona Saudi at Darat Al Furrun.

'PNA asks Jordan to consider supplying it with oil products'

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Palestinian self-rule authority has asked Jordan to study the possibility of supplying oil products to the West Bank and Gaza Strip after Israel hands over the territories to the Palestinians, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Samih Darwazeh said Tuesday.

The minister said the request was made hy Mohammad Nashashibi, minister of finance in the Gaza-based Palestinian National Authority (PNA), during a meeting on Monday. Mr. Darwazeh said Jordan

stood ready to meet the request, but ruled out that the Kingdom might use Iraqi crude to meet the Palestinian needs at this point in time because of the continoing international sanctioos against Iraq.

Most prohably, if the suparrangements are firmed up, then Jordan would be buying and pro-cessing Saudi or Syrian crude and reexporting the derivatives to the Palestini-

In any event, Mr. Darwazeh told the Jordan "the Palestinians Times, have to resolve many issues before we could discuss the arrangement in coocrete

The minister noted that Israel was supplying oil products to the Palestinians and "they (the Palestinians) have to make arrangements for supply from a different He said Mr. Nashashihi

did oot refer to specifics but wanted to discuss the issue in principle whether Jordan could meet the Palesonians' needs, and I said we were willing." "Now they bave to settle the issue of alternate

sources of supply with the Israelis and then specify the exact quantity and type of products they want, and then we have to study how best we could supply their



Samih Darwazeh

needs," the minister added. Mr. Darwazeh said Jordan had enough extra capacity at its sole refinery at Zarqa outside Amman to meet the Palestinians' needs.

According to Palestinian officials, the average daily consumption of oil in the Palestinian territories is estimated at about 30,000

The Zarqa refinery has an installed capacity to process 100,000 barrels of oil per day, and it uses only ahout 60 to 70 per cent of the capacity to meet local Jordanian needs.

Mr. Darwazeh said that using Iraqi crude to supply the Palesonians is out of question in view of the five-year-old internacional sancdons against Iraq.

Jordan gets 50,000 barrels of crude and 20,000 harrels of fuel oil from Iraq every day under an exempoon granted by the U.N. Sancdons Committee.

The Kingdom is the only country permitted by the committee to import Iraqi

United Nations sources said last mooth that a PNA request to extend such an exemption to the Palestinians was rejected by members of the Sanctions Committee even before it was formally presented and dis-

Agriculture ministry to submit 12 projects to MENA — official

AMMAN (Petra) - The Ministry of Agriculture has prepared 12 draft projects to be submitted to the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit which opens here Sunday hoping to attract investors and Arab and foreign organisatioos, according to the director of the ministry's agricultural policy, Walid Abed Rahbo.

These projects include the development of 17,900 'Hectares' of arable' land " In Wadi Karak, in the south of the country, and a similar project in Tafileh Gover-torate, Dr. Abed Rabbo said Tuesday.

Another project, be said. is the creation of free agricultural trade zones along the commoo borders of countries io the Middle

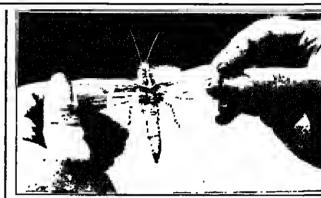
another project Still involves training of personoel in modern farming

which entails the application of advanced technology, the control of pests and cooperation among regional or international organisatioos involved in food productioo, said Dr Abed

A proposed project deals with agro-industry and techniques to increase production, according .. to Dr. ABed Rabbu whot will represent the Ministry of Agriculture at the three-day

conference.

According to the director general of the Amman Financial Market and rapporteur of the MENA preparatory committee the number of registered participants to the conference has reached 1,000 of whom 30 per cent are from Arah countries.



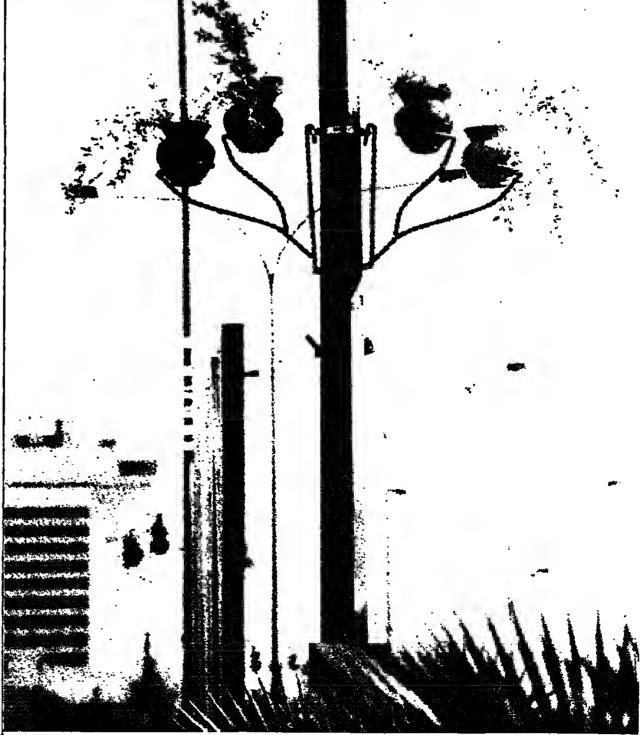
A species of crop-devastating locust (file photo)

Red Sea, Yemen locust problem is not threat to Jordan — ministry

AMMAN (J.T.) — Desert locusts which were spotted oo the southern shores of the Red Sea and Yemeo pose oot threat to Jordan, the Ministry of Agriculture reported Tuesday.

istry's Agricultural Products Control Department, Mazen Khasawneb, said that the UN Food and Agriculture Organisatioo (FAO) commission for controlling the desert locusts io the Middle East notified Jordan about the problem in these areas, but he added that the ministry is ready to deal with the situation should locusts begin to appear in

Jordan last suffered a locust problem io 1988 but dealt prompily with the situation, and oo damage to the country's main crops areas were reported.



Efforts to spruce up Amman in time for the Middle East and North Africa economic summit reach new heights (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

2 killed in alleged Indian firing in Pakistani Kashmir

Pakistan-administered Kashmir (Agencies) — Two people were killed and four were injured Tuesday when Indian troops opened fire near a disputed border with India, officials here

They accused Indian troops of "unprovoked firing" at Athmuqam, a village go kilometres north of Muzaffarabad, capital of the Pakistani-administered zone of divided Kashmir.

The early morning incident left two people dead, including a girl, and four injured, they said, and triggered panic among the civilian population in the village, located in the Neelam Valley along the disputed border.

Some 70 people bave been killed in the valley in various shooting incidents involving Indian Border Forces since November last year, officials said.

BEIJING (R) — A strong earthquake hit China's rural

but densely populated

Yunnan province Tuesday,

killing at least 27 people

and leaving many farmers homeless in foul weather,

officials said from the

The tremor struck during

a torrential rainstorm,

adding to survivors' misery

Many people in stricken

Wuding and Luquan coun-

ties perisbed when their

houses collapsed in the 6.47

a.m. (2247 GMT Monday)

Earthquake, which regis-

death in huilding collaps-

es," a Wnding county offi-

"The epicentre was in a

town, so the damage was

not as extensive as it might

have been. Mostly we've

had single-storey huildings

Nearly 200 bouses turn-

bled in on their tenants,

killing at least 27 and seri-

ously injuring 66, a seismo-

Yunnan capital, Kunming.

Casualty and damage

reports were still trickling in

from the hardest-hit area, a

rugged but populated area

Wuding, officials said.

cial said.

quake-prone region.

state minister, condemned the incident and pointed out that it coincided with the 50th anniversary of the United Nations. In a statement here he called upon Secretary-General U.N. Boutros Ghali to pressure India to stop the ceasefire

violations. In Srinagar, India, security clashed with Kashmiri demonstrators and fired into the air Tuesday before arresting leaders of a protest march against the United Nations, witnesses

said. Yaseen Malik, president of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), was hit on the head during the protest and was carried away noconscions to a police station in Srinagar, they said.

Other prominent separatist leaders detained included Jawed Mir and Shakeel Bakshi, both of the paign against Delhi's rule.

homeless, prompting quick

mobilisation hy relief agen-

The situation is extreme-

Wnding

ly serious," said an official

A small reservoir dam-

aged in the tremor was leak-

ing, causing concern for

residents living down-

Ghnlam Rasool, a former JKLF, and Syed Ali Geelani, acting chairman of All Party Hurriyat (Freedom) Conference which groups more than 30

separatist organisations. Malik and others were arrested for breach of peace and disobeying prohibitive regulations," Kashmir Police Chief B.S. Gill told

Clashes between stonethrowing protesters and security forces continued two hours after authorities prevented the harefoot demonstrators, who had planned a silent protest march, from leaving Srinagar's old city for the

local U.N. Headquarters. Srinagar is the snmmer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, largely Hindu India's only Muslim-majority state, where police and hospitals say more than 20,000 people have been killed in a five-year cam-

Islamabad says it provides only diplomatic and moral

they were protesting against what they called the U.N.'s unwillingness to intervene in the decades-old dispute between India and Pakistan over the Himalayan region. Pakistan and many

Leaders of the march said

Kashmiri separatists say the U.N. is bound by resolutions dating from the late 1940s to supervise a plebiscite to determine whether Jammu and Kashmir should remain in

India_ India says a 1972 treaty with Pakistan made the issue one to be solved in bilateral talks.

New Delhi controls two thirds of Kashmir and Pakistan the rest. India accuses Islamabad of training and arming separatist militants spearheading the rebellion, charges Pakistan denies.

support to the separatists.

United States President Bill Clinton (right) laughs with Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin during a press conference after their meeting in Hyde Park (AFP photo)

Yeltsin calls press brainless

Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who delights in strutting the world stage, did it again Monday, reducing president Bill Clinton to belpless laughter with a flamboyant display of press-bashing.

Glaring at reporters. growling into the microphone and gesticulating wildly after a summit and lunch with Mr. Clinton at Hyde Park, north of New York City, Mr. Yeltsin said the meeting was a total success despite the press's universal prediction that it

would be flop.
Mr. Yeltsin took obvious delight in having the last laugh in the latest in a line of unpredictable performances by the 64-year-old

Kremlin leader. "Coming from my statement yesterday in the United Nations, and if you looked at the press reports, one could see that what you were writing was that today's meeting with President Bill Clinton was going to be a disaster." he

time. I can tell you that whom he called a "legyou're a disaster."

Revelling in the occasion. Mr. Yeltsin went on 10 tell reporters: "Your hrains turned out 10 be useless."

Mr. Clinton first chuckled loudly, then his laughter turned to loud howls and soon he was doubled up in mirth. Putting his arm around the Kremlin leader's shoulder, he wiped tears from his eyes. Mr. Yeltsin turned to him smiling glee-

"Be sure that you get the right auribution there," Mr. Clinton said in an aside to

reporters. If ever a Russian leader had tried to render a U.S. president temporarily helpless, he could hardly have done better.

Mr. Yeltsin took over the news conference, stepping in to field most of the questions, coaxing reporters on with sweeping gestures and signalling to aides when he

thought it should end. He even waxed lyrical about the summit venue, the picturesque mansion home

endary personality".

Holding his hand to his heart, he said: "It is the delight of the Earth, the delight of the planet. I bow low to the workers at the Roosevelt Museum and say thank you for looking after this wonderful museum."

Last week, Mr. Yeltsin made headlines by pinching the backs of two secretaries in the glare of the world's relevision cameras as he took his seat at a news conference with U.S. and Russian reporters.

In Berlin for ceremonies marking the departure of the last Russian troops from Berlin in August last year, he appeared unsteady after a champagne lunch.

Then he took up the baton to conduct a military hand, shocking onlookers with an

impromptu performance. The following month, he failed to get off the plane to meet Ireland's then prime minister, Albert Revnolds, during a brief stop on his

aid. of the late President "Well, now for the first Franklin D. Roosevelt way home from a summit in the United States. Paper: Powell will run for president

LONDON (R) — Geoeral Day. launch an all-out bid to capture the U.S. presidency next month with a formal declaration that he will seek the Republican nomination. the Guardian newspaper

reported Tuesday. The paper quoted unnamed Republican Party sources in Washington as saying the Gulf War hero, former chairman of the U.S. Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff, was set to make his move as early as November

race would give the Republicans a better-thaneven chance of dashing President Bill Clinton's reelection hopes, according to the sources. If elected, Gen. Powell would be the first black president of the United States.

The Guardian said the party's upper echelons increasingly view the retired general as a saviour and are convinced he will declare his candidature

It added that Gen. Powell Colin Powell is expected to His entry into the 1996 has been emboldened by the runaway success of bis autohiography, 1,550,000 copies of which were printed in the first month, and a pop-star reception he received during his promotional campaign.

Gen. Powell bas been saying he would decide in November whether to run. either as a Republican or as an independent. Polls show he would beat Mr. Clinton if be were to stand as a

Dreamworks to

build new animation studio

GLENDALE, California

(AP) - Dreamworks

SKG, the production comformed by

Scoul say

armed N

Korea

spies kil

police

officer

Hollywood heavyweights Steven Spielberg, David Geffen and Jeffrey Katzenberg, has reached a preliminary accord to build an animation studio near Los Angeles. The \$50 million studio in Glendale, 15 kilometres north of Los Angeles, would employ 1,000 people, city officials said Saturday. The first public discussion of the plan is scheduled for Tuesday at a city council meeting. Calls to Dreamworks for comment went Sunday. unanswered Dreamworks now houses its animation division on the Universal Studios lot in the eastern part of San Fernando Valley. Company officials have said they want to keep the operation in the region because it is home to many of southern California's top animators.

Queen, Beatles in macabre pop chart battle

LONDON (R) — The Beatles and Queen are to battle for top spot in Britain's pop charts with singles by singers who have both died. Next month the three surviving Beatles are 10 release their first album for 25 years and it includes a song by John Lennon, shot dead by a gunman outside his New York apartment in 1980. Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr and George Harrison have added musical backing to the Lennon song Free As A Bird that was given to the Beatles by his widow Yoko Ono. Now Queen are to take on the Beatles with an album and single recorded by their flamboyant lend singer Freddie Mercury just before he died of AIDS in 1991. Guitarist Brian May, giving details of the album Monday, said: "By the time we were doing it, we knew we would be on borrowed time because Freddie had been told he would never make it. We just tried to make the best use of him.'

Joke that fell flat grounds war veteran

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, England. (AFP) — World War 11 veteran Owen Pugh's joke to airport staff fell flat, leaving him grounded here instead of flying off to Cyprus to celebrate his golden wedding. Asked if he had any electrical equipment in his bag-gage, Mr. Pugh replied, "No. just the Semtex," a powerful explosive, whereupon the pilot of the Air 2000 plane refused to allow him and his wife Mary aboard. It is patently ohvious I am not a terrorist at my age," Mr. Pugh said. "I asked them to search my hags 10 prove 1 wasn't carrying a bomh but they refused. "An airport official said the pilot did not want us on his plane and we were told to go home.". The Pughs eventually got

Woman averts rape by severing

10 Cyprus by a later plane.

 A 35-year-old Bangladeshi had his penis chopped off while trying to rape a neighbour's wife, police said. The woman, Julekha, 30, gave the severed penis to police near the port of Mongla and told them Ayub Ali had slipped into her hut while her husband was nway, they said, "He was trying to get me for some time but unsuccessfully. Today he became desperate," Julekha told police. "I pulled a knife from under the bed and just cui off his penis. I first planned to feed it to my ducks but later changed my mind." Police said Ali was in hospital but gave no fur-

ther details.

and making rescue and of the epicentre, relief work especially diffi-The earthquake severed communications to Wuding, cult in the rugged mountain province bordering Burma.

Seismological Bureau.

home to about 240,000 people, haif of them ethnic minorities and half China's predominant ethnic Han, Xinhua News Agency said. Seismologists counted

more than 200 aftershocks tered 6.5 on the open-ended Richter Scale, local and provincial officials said hy to the main earthquake, including seven with Richter readings above four. A Wnding hroadcaster said seismologists predicted further aftersbocks, prompt-ing many residents to stay "Most were crushed to

outdoors. "Almost everyone is staymountainous area, not in ing outside and only a few of us are staying

offices," he said. All schools closed for the

Rescue teams were despatched to Wuding and Luquan from surrounding counties and from Kunming, about 75 kilomelogical official said from the

tres southeast of the epicentre, provincial officials said. "I knew instantly it was an earthquake. 1 felt four shocks. 1 was borrified," one official said from

some 30 kilometres west of

Rural China quake kills at least 27 numbers of people were left happen all the time. But we all ran ont of our buildings into the rain," he added, estimating that the first wave of tremors lasted a terrifying 15 minutes.

The earthquake jarred residents as far away as Kunming and parts of Sichnan province to the north, but little damage was reported outside the region

A 7.3-magnitude tremor jolted Yunnan's Menglian region in July, killing 11 people and injuring 136.

The latest earthquake struck at a time of superstitious sensitivity about natural disasters across China. In the past month, a rare

"leap eighth month" on China's traditional lunar caleodar, millions of Chinese have taken to wearing specially coloured socks or taking other precantions to guard against brushes

with the supernatural. The last leap eighth month came in 1976, a year when 240,000 people were killed in north China's great Tangshan earthquake and Communist luminaries Chairman Mao Tse-Tnng, Prime Minister Zhou Enlai and Marshal Zhu De all

died. The current leap eighth month ended Monday.

So acute are popular fears that the People's Daily, the Guangming Daily and other top official newspapers have taken the unusual step "We are rather used to of quoting scientists to dis-

Wuding.

Kohl gloats over Berlin vote as Social **Democrats** fret

BONN, Germany (AP) -Chancellor Helmut Kohl gloated Monday over his party's election success in Berlin and ridiculed the opposition Social Democrats, whose showing was their worst in the German capital since World War II.

Speaking at a news conference a day after the Berlin elections; Mr. Kohl said with a smile that "this

is a good day."
Mr. Kohl said he was not disturbed that in the Berlin vote his Christian Democratic Union actually lost support: from 40.4 per cent in 1990 to 37.4 per

cent. And he did not appear upset that his junior coalation ally at the federal level, the Free Democrats, lost all their seats in the Berlin parliament because they failed to win 5 per

cent of the vote. Guenter However, Rexrodt, Berlin party chairman for the Free Democrats, was so distraught over the outcome that he announced he would resign the local post while remaining economics minister in Mr. Kohl's

cabinet. Mr. Kohl said be was pleased because his Christian Democrats emerged the strongest party in all of Berlin, which has regained its status as Germany's capital and is to again become the seat of government by the year 2000. The capital and the government were moved to Bonn after the Nazis' defeat five decades ago.

Governing Berlin for the past four years with the Social Democrats. Christian Democratic Mayor Eberhard Diepgen offered another "grand coalition" to the left-leaning party. The Social Democrats said they would think about it.

The Social Democrats won only 23.6 per cent of Sunday's vote, compared to 30.4 per cent in 1990. That is their worst postwar showing in Berlin. Sunday's vote showed

that in some ways, the Berlin wall still stands. East Berliners gave 36.3 per cent of their vote to the reconstituted East German Communists, now called the Party of Democratic Socialism, or PDS. Overall, the PDS won 14.7

reunited city. Many east Germans are drawn to the PDS because the party speaks ont for their concerns over jobs and fair treatment in united

per cent, making them the

third-strongest party in the

11, which is U.S. Veterans' before Nov. 23. Republican. Eclipse leaves parts of Asia in darkness

Millions of people from Iran to Indonesia stopped to watch the moon cover the sun. The moon's shadow first crossed the sun over central Iran just after dawn, then moved across Afghanistan, Pakistan and

The shadow, about 100 kilometres wide at most, then flitted over Burma, Thailand and Cambodia hefore racing across Vietnam, northern Malaysia and Indonesia. The central point of the eclipse fell just north of the Angkor Wat

nomenon was heightened by superstitions and forecasts by Asian soothsayers who warned the eclipse could bring doom or disas-

At Angkor Wat, where thousands of locals and forchanting Buddhist monks and dancers to witness the event, the eclipse was deemed to bring good luck. lore, which sees an eclipse as the moon eating the sun.

it is a good omen if the sun moves away from the

away from the moon's head after nearly two minutes of

In Thailand's northwestem town of Mae Sot. groups of Buddhist monks and throngs of schoolchildren wearing special protective sunglasses peered into the sky as a ring of bright light circled the moon for the brief 1-1/2 minnte

Hotels overflowed in Mae

on the Thai bank of the Moei River began to disperse as the first rays of sunlight appeared from behind the moon around 11.00 a.m. (0400 GMT) and

had lasted longer," said one man to his friends." Pimchai Laimanee, 53,

travelled from her home in northern Chiang Mai for the "I want to see it this time

because next time maybe 1 won't be alive," she said, noting she had seen the last total eclipse of the sun in Thailand when she was a schoolgirl in 1955.

still in major cities like Bangkok as people gazed at the sky, some looking through special glasses, others through exposed film or were glued to live coverage on local television channels. In India, the eclipse disrupted life as millions stayed away from work to dodge its legendary ill

Streets in the Indian capital and other cities were deserted and shops remained sbuttered as the moon's shadow raced астоss a 1,800-kilometre long band stretching from the Thar Desert in the west to the Bay of Bengal in the east.

At the Taj Mahal, in the

northern town of Agra

which experienced a partial eclipse, about 2,000 tourists watched as the pearly marble of the Moghul mausoleum took on a steely tint. But heavy rain and clouds robbed millions of Filipinos of a view of the eclipse. Pakistani schools were closed in Sind and Punjab provinces to keep children at home during the eclipse to save children from any mishap related to the solar

eclipse. In Bangladesh, thousands scrambled onto their roofs. sea shores and at a naval base in the Bay of Bengal to watch the last solar eclipse this century despite super-

Many people, especially women, remained indoors believing the eclipse was a had omen and to avent feared termination of pregnancies or foetal deformi-

Large hut unspecified earthquakes because they count the dangers. Wilson endorses Dole for president

WASHINGTON (R) -California Governor Pete Wilson Monday threw his support to Republican presidential frontrunner Bob Dole but said he would not accept the vice presidential nomination if Sen. Dole offered it to him.

Today 1 am convinced that Bob Dole has the character, the experience and the commitment to conservative change to take the Republican revolution to the presidency," Mr. Wilson, who recently dropped out of the race for the Republican presidential nomination, said at a news

conference with Sen. Dole. Mr. Wilson also said he would not accept the vice presidential nomination if it were offered. There had with solid Republican leadbeen speculation that Mr. ership."

being Sen. Dole's running mate if Republicans chose the Kansas senator to take on Democratic President Bill Clinton next year.

vention in San Diego. Mr. Wilson, who once served as a senator alongside Sen. Dole, said one thing that unites all Republicans is "our commitment to replace Bill Clinton's liberal vacillation

Wilson was interested in

California is the nation's most populous state and could be decisive for the 1996 presidential election. It is also pivotal in the presidential nomination sweepstakes since it will send the largest number of delegates — 163 — to next summer's Republican national con-

Clinton California, and its pile of electoral votes, in his 1992 presidential victory over incumbent George Bush.

In his brief run earlier this year for the Republican presidential nomination, Mr. Wilson failed to attract the cash or supporters expected of a governor of the nation's largest state. He withdrew from the race on Sept. 29 with a \$1.4 million

campaign debt. Polls showed him winning less than 5 per cent of the Republican vote in most states. And his presidential run burt his standing in his home state where he was viewed as a man who broke a promise to voters not to run for the White House.

Alleged Zapatista leader arrested in Mexico City, denies charges

MEXICO CITY (R) — including an AK-47 rifle, a Mexican authorities, pour- spokesman for the attorney ing cold water on advances general's office said. in peace talks in the southern state of Chiapas, said Monday that police bad

ment. Fernando Yanez Munoz. alias Comandante German of the Zapatista national Liberation Army (EZLN), was caught in Mexico City in possession of weapons ern city of Monterrey.

Mr. Yanez, in comments to reporters after making a statement to authorities at arrested the alleged founder the city's Oriente Jail,

of the Zapatista rebel move- denied the charges. "I have no links to the EZLN, though it would be an bonour for me," Mr. Yanez said. He described himself as a 51-year-old architect living in the north-

In a statement, the attorney general's office said Mr. Yanez was arrested Saturday and was being held on firearms charges. Two other people beld with him were released without

Mr. Yanez was not being held in relation to an existing arrest warrant issued on Feh. 8, which named Mr. Yanez as a top Zapatista commander, it added.

ANGKOR WAT, Cambodia (R) — The magnificent 12th century Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious structure, was shronded in darkness Tnesday as a total solar eclipse cast a rare shadow across a swath of South and South East Asia.

northern India.

Temple. Interest in the rare phe-

eigners gathered with According to local folk-

"head" or top of the moon. Locals were heartened by the sight of the sun moving even sunglasses to avoid

darkness.

Sot on the eve of the eclipse with those unable to find rooms camping out in tents on from lawns. Restaurants ran out of food and petrol stations ran dry. The huge crowd gathered

daylight again replaced the eerie half-light. "It was too short. I wish it

occasion.

Life came to a near stand-

harming their eyes. Others

effects.

stition-related fears.

organ KHULNA, Bangladesb (R)

Dreamworks to build new animation study Seoul says t AP3 Dreaming NK11, the production to formed

armed N. Korea spies kill police officer

SEOUL (R) - Two men described by Seoul officials as North Korean infiltrators exchanged gunfire with Sonth Korean forces in the central town of Puyo Tuesday and a southern police officer was killed.

The officials said one of the alleged infiltrators was shot in the leg and captured while the other fled into the hills.

"The captured man confessed that he is an agent sent from North Korea in August," a Defence Ministry official, who asked not to be identified,

told Reuters. State television news identified the captured man

as Kim Do-Sik, 33. Three Sonth Korean police officers were hit in the gunbattle and one died of his wounds, authorities

It was the second reported infiltration by North Korean agents in a week. Last Tuesday, South Korea said a northern infiltrator in a frogman's suit was shot dead just south of the demilitarised zone dividing the two Koreas. Another survived and fled

back across the horder. The South Korean military displayed the naked corpse of the alleged intruder along with survival kits, camera equipment, two automatic rifles, grenades and a frogman's

On Friday, the Seoul Defeoce Ministry said a rifle and other equipment was found near the border and was thought to belong to a third North Korean

ageot denounced the reports as

fabrication. A police officer in Puyo, a small town 140 kilometres sonth of Seoul, said a huge manhunt was underway Tuesday for the fugitive gunman last seen run-

ning into the hills. He said the two men opened fire with pistols as a team of police and soldiers approached them on a

Police checkpoints had been set up on roads leading to Puyo and two army helicopters were hovering over the area looking for the fugitive gunman, he

Television showed armed troops flagging down vehi-

cles and searching them. The police officer said the two were spotted by a have and his wife civilian at around 2:40 p.m. (0540 GMT). The injured

gunman was captured about 90 minutes later. After the earlier alleged infiltration, the U.S.-led United Nations command attempted to lodge a formal protest with Pyongyang hnt

was rebuffed by North Korean officials on the neavily-armed border. And South Korea's Defence Ministry had said there would be strong countermeasures in the

event of another infiltration. It did not say what they might be. Pyongyang Seoul and Washington of

fabricating the first incident in a lengthy commentary in the official daily

the special pulled in the best in the best



Chinese President Jiang Zemin (left) laughs with former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger during a luncheon in New York (AFP photo)

Independence of Taiwan could mean war, Jiang says

WASHINGTON (AP) — The dispute over islands in the South China Sea can be resolved peacefully, China's president said in an interview broadcast Monday, hut he said interference with China's claim to Taiwan could lead to "the military

option." President Jiang Zemin said the primary issue at his meeting with President Bill Clinton Tnesday will be Taiwan. The two leaders are meeting in New York during 50th anniversary observances of the United

Nations. Mr. Jiang, interviewed for the MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour, said China's military, including a rapid-reaction force, is only for national defence and the country has "no intention whatsoever of hattling with other coun-

Mr. Jiang told MacNeilcorrespondent

Elizabeth Farnsworth that II postwar period, when the · Taiwan is the main issue be will take up with Mr. Clinton. Asked if war would forced be the inevitable result if Taiwan sought independence, the president replied: "I believe the answer to your question is affirma-China favours peaceful reunification with Taiwan

on the hasis of one conntry, two systems," Mr. Jiang said, warning, however, that if there is pressure for Taiwan to seek independence, "I believe then one cannot rule ont the military

Mr. Jiang said it would be folly" for the United States to revive a containment policy toward China, he asserted, because rather than a threat, China's growing strength "will make for sta-

hility in the world." The containment policy they would goes back to the World War and private.

Chinese Communists captured the mainland and the Chinese Nationalist government to retreat to offshore Taiwan. The United States sought to isolate Beijing until 1979, then switched official U.S. Recognition to the Peoples Republic while continuing trade, military and cultural ties with Taiwan on an

unofficial basis. Mr. Jiang also said the Chinese "hope in the future there will be no reoccurrence of such an incident" as the private visit to Cornell University last spring by Taiwan President Lee Teng-Hui.

Accusing Beijing of overreacting to Mr. Lee's trip, the Clinton administration has refused to han future U.S. visits by Taiwan leaders but declared if any occur they would be infrequent

Castro: Cuba will not embrace capitalism

NEW YORK (R) - Cuhan President Fidel Castro said Monday Cuba would never dump communism and embrace capitalism, even if the United States were to lift a crippling trade embar-

go on the island. But Mr. Castro, speaking oo U.S. television while attending U.N. 50th anniversary celebrations in New York, admitted that Cnban society was too "paternalistic" and had to learn from capitalist effi-

ciency. "We only need to learn a little hit more about capitalism in order to be more efficient. We have to be less paternalistic," he told CBS television's Dan Rather in

an interview. "Our country would never go back to capitalism. At least today, in this era, people I know do not want cap-

italism," he said. Mr. Castro later told NBC nightly news that Cuba would not adopt political reforms in return for the lifting of the embargo the United States has enforced on the Caribbean island for

34 years.
"As a principle we would not accept any political prethe sovereignty and inde- Castro protesters as he left pendence of our country,"

he said. Things that have to do with our domestic policy, President with our internal affairs McNamara. would not be under discussioo," he added. Castro has used his

third visit to the United States since he came to power in 1959 to step up his efforts to free Cuba from the U.S. embargo, which a Republican-controlled Congress in Washington is

planning to tighten.
The Chban leader, who is in New York attending 50th anniversary celebrations at the United Nations. addressed U.S. husinesmen and policy-makers Monday at luncheon hosted for him by the Council on Foreign Relations, a private thinktank of husinessmen and

diplomats. But participants said his words were unlikely to be rewarded by a lifting of the

U.S. embargo. The majority inside felt it was good but that's not going to change anybody's mind outside," said Wayne Smith, former head of the U.S. diplomatic interests office in Havana, who was

the lunch.

Former U.S. Defence Secretary and World Bank publisher Mortimer Zuckerman, head of CBS television Laurence Tisch and Cuban-American investment hanker Mario Baeza were among those

who attended All four declined to provide details of Mr. Castro's speech, citing their pledge of confidentiality to the

organisers. Mr. Castro denounced the emhargo in his speech to the U.N. General Assembly Sunday, calling it a "noiseless atomic bomb which kills men, women and chiltives fell into the ravine. dren, young and old."

In a speech to supporters in Harlem Sunday might, Mr. Castro said be had dined with U.S. husinessmen at the house of a wealthy American family Saturday and they had favoured ending the embar-

They understand that the blockade is obsolete and many businessmen are opposed to it," he said at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem.

conditions that might affect jeered by a group of 50 anti-Japan starts 1st trial for gas attack

TOKYO (R) — The first sonal physician to Shoko trial of a cult member for Tokyo's suhway attack started Tuesday, when the sect founder's doctor admitted making nerve gas and prosecutors called the atrocity a plot to head off a police investigation.

While admitting making the sarin gas, Tomomasa Nakagawa pleaded oot guilty to murder and attempted murder charges stemming from the March 20 attack, which killed 11 people and made thousands

of passengers ill. He is also on trial for the murder of a rebel follower. About 5,000 people queued for 56 public seats in the drab courtroom to the first trial directly linked to an attack that kept Japan in

oear panic for months. Nearly all seats went to news organisations which hired hundreds of students to get lottery numbers deciding admission so they could have more than the 40

media places allocated. Dr. Nakagawa, 32, per-

Asahara, guru of the Aum Shinri Kyo (Anm supreme Truth sect), told the threejudge court be made the sarin at a laboratory in the sect beadquarters near Mount Fnji, about 100 kilowas not the case.

was not aware there was a plan to use it. Japan has no jury trials and judges pass verdict and sentence. The maximum penalty for murder is death

metres west of Tokyo, hut

hy hanging. Dr. Nakagawa's testimony was expected to have a major bearing on Asahara's trial. That is schednled to open Thursday, unless it is delayed by a minor car accident involving his sole lawyer, who is suffering

The guru has been accused of masterminding the subway attack and will also be tried for murder and attempted murder with the prosecution's case expected to almost mirror details revealed in Tokyo District Court's Ronm 104 Tuesday.

from whiplash.

Asahara's lawyer Shoji Yokoyama said last week that the bearded guru plans to plead not guilty, arguing he was also not aware of what his followers planned. Dr. Nakagawa said that

"Asahara ordered the production of sarin in mid-March," he told the court. "There is no mistake in the fact that I produced the

sarin and that I sealed the liquid in plastic bags," he "(But) I was not aware of a coospiracy to release the

gas, although I knew samm was a dangerons chemical." Dr. Nakagawa's lawyer said his client admitted he was involved in the murders hut only as an accessory.

The lawyer asked the court

to reduce the charges to

accessory to murder. Dr. Nakagawa also admitted he was involved in the strangulation of a rebel follower Kotaro Ochida, a separate murder charge against him, but said he played only a minor role.

Sri Lanka troops engage rebel Jaffna City vanguard poised for the attack, one Colombo, the diplomats

COLOMBO (R) - Sri lankan troops preparing for the final thrust on the Tamil rebel-held north fought a hig battle against rebels protecting the approaches to their prized Jaffna City, the

military said Tuesday. battle, involving heavy artillery, lasted several hours before dawn Monday. Troops finally repulsed the attack by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in Neerveli,

the military said. Eighteen soldiers were killed and 42 wounded in a battle in which an estimated 30 rebels died, the military

Neerveli is just eight kilometres from Jaffna City, the jewel in the nation the LTTE hopes to establish in northern and eastern Sri Lanka, which it says is the traditional homeland of the

Tamil minority. Jaffna is now almost within reach of an advancing army that is, according to diplomats, massing

launch an assault on it. Three army divisions with a combined strength of around 21,000 troops are

diplomat said. "We can expect the attack

on Jaffna City after a few days to secure Colombo from guerrilla attacks," the diplomat added.

But the military, which launched the offensive on Oct. 17 to recapture rebel territory in the north, was cautious.

"In the near future, we might take Jaffna (City), I can't tell you exactly when," spokesman said.

An assault on the city would mark the decisive phase in a war in which the government says more than 50,000 people have been killed since it began in

The diplomats said they believed the struggle for densely populated Jaffna may result io a heavy loss of life on both sides, as well as among the civilian popula-

But its value as a psychological boost for govern-ment troops and a hlow to rebel morale far outweighs the risks of provoking inter-

The way to Jaffna, though hy no means clear, is now slightly open after hattles Sunday and Monday.

A military spokesman said 29 snldiers were killed in Sunday's battle around Palaly, a major governmentheld air hase and headquarters of Sri Lankan troops on

the Jaffna peninsula. Troops on the ground put the rebel casualties in that hattle at around 75 killed and 150 wounded, the mili-

tary said. But the LTTE said in a statement the hattle, which started eight days agn and reached a climax Sunday, ended with the army being beaten hack by the rebels and withdrawing. It said

only 13 Tigers were killed. The military says at least 350 rebels and 76 soldiers have died in the offensive.

With the rebels pressed in the north, they have launched attacks on civilians in the east and in

Colombo in the south. The Tigers are stepping up pressure on us to deflect

top military officer in the

In the latest attack, the rebels killed 19 men, women and children in the hamlet of Kotivagala in the east, survivors and police said. All 19 were from the majority Sinhalese community, who make up 74 per cent of Sri Lanka's popula-

tion of 18 million. Sunday's attack was the fourth oo civilians in the east in two days. On Saturday, 66 people were killed in three villages. The

victims included Tamils. Diplomats said the attacks may distract the military as troops near Jaffna City, and may also be aimed at provoking a Sinhalese backlash against Tamils in the south.

Government concerns of a backlash rose after the rebels staged attacks on two oil installations in Colombo

government was The forced to put Colombo under curfew after troops fired in the air to stop Sinhalese mobs from attacking Tamils near the oil depots shortly after the

oational reaction against our posh on Jaffna," said a rebel raid. 4 wounded as police fire on Chechenya rally

GROZNY, Russia (Agencies) - At least four people were wounded when police loyal to the pro-Moscow administration in rebel Chechenya opened fire on an opposition rally in the centre of the regional capital Grozny Tuesday, eyewit-

oesses said. Participants in the rally told reporters that one man had been killed, but this could oot be independently

confirmed. Reporters saw wounded people two. men and two women --- in

A crowd of up to 3,000 people had gathered near the ruined Presidential Palace in the ceotre of Grozny to protest against the appointment of Doku Zavgayev as prime minister io the Moscow-backed

Chechen government. The crowd chanted slogans in support of rebel leader Dzhokhar Dudayev. Protestors told reporters who arrived at the scene shortly after the incident that police had opened fire

Meanwhile the speaker of Chechenya's Soviet-era parliament will become head of the Russian-backed government in the breakaway republic, a report said Monday, citing Russia's chief negotiator to peace

into the crowd.

talks. Vyacbeslav Mikhailov told ITAR-TASS that the former lawmaker, Doku Zavgayev, would replace

Salembek Khadzhiev, who

reportedly Monday to take up a new post in Moscow.

Mr. Khadzhiev has grown increasingly outspoken against the Chechen rebels since his appointment hy Moscow earlier this year. Rebel negotiators have accused him of hindering the peace talks, which have been bogged down for

months. Russian and Chechen negotiators in Grozny, have been working to salvage a shaky July 30 military accord that calls for rebel disarmament and partial

Russian troop withdrawal. Mr. Zavgayev, 54, was speaker of the Chechen Supreme Soviet until it was dissolved by rebel leader Dzhokhar Dudayev in April

Mr. Zavgayev has insisted that the former legislature

be represented in the talks. Moscow sent some 40,000 troops to the Caucasus Mountains republic last December to end its bid for independence, and installed a Kremlio-hacked government. Thousands of people, many of them civilians, have died in the fight-

ITAR-TASS, quoting officials in the Chechen government, all said Khadzhiev had been offered... the joh of chairman of the state committee for industri-

al policy. Mr. Khadzhiev was unavailable for comment,

the news agency said.

Indonesia train plunges into ravine; 17 dead

JAKARTA (R) — Up to 17 people were killed in Indonesia Tuesday when a train left the rails and eight of its carriages plunged into

a West Java ravine. Police in the town of Tasikmalaya told Renters about 250 people survived the accident when eight coaches and two locomokilled and 86 were injured. 220 kilometres southeast of

Jakarta, to Kediri, East

Police in Tasikmalaya, Jakarta, put the toll at 14 dead and 22 badly injured.

police Tasikmalaya spokesman Nurasamsi said about 250 people on the train from Bandung, 180 kilometres southeast of

Agency said 17 people were "I believe there were too were shaking when the train many coaches. Normally, entered a village shortly there are eight coaches but before the accident. this time there were 13," he

> said by telephone. Antara quoted Yaya tal told Reuters 70 people Suhaya, chief of the had been treated there hut Tasikmalaya Train Station, as saying the accident occurred 25 kilometres out-

side the town.

official Αn Tasikmalaya's public hospihad been treated there hut only 29 remained by late

afternoon. Transport Harvanto Danuntirto and The agency quoted wit- other officials visited the

Java, escaped unscathed. The official Antara News nesses as saying coaches accident site, Antara said. Amnesty hits continued rights abuses in Burma

BANGKOK (AFP) - Amnesty International Thursday called the release last July of Burmese democracy leader Aung San Sun Kyi a "positive and welcome step," but said the human rights situation in Burma

still remained critical. "The military govern-ment's actions this year amount to giving with one hand while taking away with the other," the human

rights watchdog said in a statement seen here. For example in mid-June, 10, politicians Tun Shwe, Thn Wai and Htwe Mying were arrested for meeting with foreigners and each sentenced to seven years in jail, it said.

The freeing of Ms. Suu Kyi "was a positive and welcome step" by Burma's military government, it said. "However, the human rights situation there remains Litt-

prisoners remain behind bars, among them at least 50

prisoners of consience," it

ment" that have cost hundreds of lives.

"Thousands of political

prisons and labour camps also remain "extremely harsh," Amnesty said, with prisoners "subjected to beatings and other ill-treat-

also occur outside the prisous, it said. Civilians in border areas are at risk of arbitrary arrest, while the army continues to force members of ethnic minorities to work

as porters and labourers. These include thousands of Mons who have been forced to work on the rail-

Burma, it said. The Burmese junta "has

made some improvements in human rights, including the reported release of over 2,000 political prisoners since April 1992, the aboli-Human rights violations tion of military tribunals and the lifting of curfew restrictions," Amnesty said. But "more profound changes" are needed,

including the release of all political prisoners, the abolition of forced labour and portering, and an end to the torture and ill-treatment of people throughout the coun-

shortly before Anng San Suu Kyi's release on July Conditions in Burmese way being huilt in southeast U.K. murder trial pieces together horrible riddle

WINCHESTER, England (R) — The trial of British serial killer suspect Rosemary West is slowly piecing together the horrible riddle of 25 Cromwell

Street.

The jury - and the rest of murder. Britain - got answers for the first time Monday to key questions that have been raised since police dug up the remains of nine young women last year at Mrs. West's home.

The main unknown element — whether Mrs. West murdered seven alleged sex victims, a rival for her hasband's affections, a stepdaughter and her own firstborn child, Heather — is still unclear in a trial due to

last three more weeks. But in taped interviews with the mother of eight

played in court, police revealed publicly for the first time that Mrs. West's curly-haired husband, found dead in his prison cell earlier this year after an apparent suicide, had admitted to

"Your husband Fred has confessed to murdering your daughter Heather seven years ago on the day that she left your house," a police officer told Mrs. West the day before the 16year-old's dismembered

remains were found under

the garden. "What?" screamed Mrs. West, 41. "So she's dead, is that right?" she added before hursting into tears. Then she said: "He's a

dead man if I ever get my hands on him." Police told the court how

Fred West took them back to his home in the western English cathedral city of Gloucester to point out where they would find more

bodies. He also went with them to fields near his childhood home where the remains of his first wife Rena and the family nanny nnearthed. The two were

last seen io the 1960s. Rose West denies murder and told police she was "totally surprised" to learn that Heather had not in fact left home to start a new life with some money she had

been given. The family had been split up a year and a half earlier when the five younger children were taken into state care following an earlier unrelated police investiga-

Detectives told Mrs. West her children had spoken of rumours that their sister had

den patio. Mrs. West, an ordinarylooking woman who would melt into any crowd, wiped away tears as a policeman gave an account in the court in Winchester. 160 kilometres from Gloucester, of how Heather was found,

been huried under the gar-

The prosecution says the Wests were in the crimes together and forcibly used unwilling young women for sadistic sex, killing them either for kicks or 10 stop

hone by bone.

THENDALE Califor Holly wood heavyweigh Steven Spielberg, Da-Cieffen and leffe proliminary accordingle on minimation studiose or America Studio &

hon studies in Glendale, kilometres, north of j Attendence norm of a Accordes would emphasize the convenient of th pidstic discussion of g The selection of a city continued for the country of a city continued for the country country to the country of the country co works for comment he Oreaniworks now how the aminum divising the Universal Studios lat the eastern part of g lemando Valley Compa officials have said to want to keep the operate in the region because t Bonne to many of some

California's top annage Queen, Beatles in macabre pop char

 $LCNDON_{\parallel}(R) = I_{k}$ Beinles and Queen are; builte for top sport isrnam's pop charts ag simples by singers & have both died No. meenin the three suring Bondes are to release the rust album for 25 years at it michigles a song by like I contour shot dead by energian omside his 🎉 of a mountain to a con-Paris Managines, Rug Nunt and vicorge Hamsa have added musical batsee to the Lennon son inc A. A. Bud the wa or to to the Reade by he Victoria Broken Day You the market to be some 4 bremedy in this end. zw of bolom ...

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Israel tolerates torture

WHEN EVEN Israeli Attnrney General Michael Ben-Yair finds the methods of interrogation of his country's security service, the Shin Bet, unacceptable and illegal, then there must be something terribly wrong with the way Israel goes about questioning Palestinian suspects. Specifically speaking, Shin Bet's resort to violent shaking of detainees, better known as "tiltulin," has already led to a known death of a Palestinian this year. There may have been other fatalities that were left unreported.

After accusing the state security agency of deliherately misleading the cabinet to win consent to this unlawful method of interrogation, hy presenting inaccurate demonstration of the shaking method of the government, the attorney general criticised the extension by three months of a special ministerial permit for Shin Bet to use harsh interrogation methods including violent shaking. "We will not open torture chambers to replace the gathering of intelligence," Mr. Ben-Yair warned recently in an interview with an Israeli newspaper. "I am not willing to see every Palestinian youth with a black beard whn is detained for questinning end op brain damaged," he

We hardly expected that the era of peace in the area would perpetuate the practice of torture and illtreatment of detainees in Israel. Need we remind the Israelis that they are party to the International Convention Against Torture? It is ohvious that the ministerial committee which extended the inhuman treatment of suspects beyond the original two-year period has not acquainted, or chose not to acquaint, itself with the provisions of the convention against forture because had it done so it would not have given a green light once again to Israeli interrogators to shake violently detained Palestinians.

Amnesty International (AI) was obviously too alarmed by Israeli indifference to international standards that it had once again voiced its concern on Monday. What AI is now targeting is the draft amendment to Israel's criminal code that purports to legitimise torture. This projected change in Israeli law would reinterpret the phenomenon of torture in a restrictive manner in order to exclude from its scope torture perpetrated during interrogation by police. This new legal construction would make a mockery of international norms which Israel is committed to observing and enforcing.

Israel has always bragged about its democracy and respect for human rights. Instead of setting a good example for the reginn, it has, by its own admission, turned into a principal violator of human rights. Perhaps the Jewish state is also drifting to the proposition that the end justifies the means. If that is the case, then it is no different from the many countries which are paying only lip service to internatinnal human rights standards.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour daily Tuesday likened the United Nations to the Arah League. saying hoth have aged and become obsolete.

Mohammad Kawash said that the two organisations, which emerged almost at the same time 50 years ago, have shown more failures than successes and, most importantly, they have proved to he biased and under the hegemony of the United States. When the United Nations came into being, following the end of World War II, the world's population became filled with new hopes for progress and peace, said the writer. But soon afterwards, the world organisation was transformed into a tool in the hand of the Western powers, which steer it towards their own benefits and their own selfish interests, he added. Now that the United Nations is 50 years old, it has entered a stage of senility and total impotence and it hecame completely unable to end international disputes, he said. The writer said that the United Nations has now heen transformed into a platform for speeches and is serving as an umbrella for America's foreign policies.

HILMI AL Asmar, editor of Al Sabeel Islamic weekly, criticised the Arah couotries for failing to mend fences between themselves while working on removing all barriers that used to separate them from Israel. The writer said that before reconciling with the enemy, the Arab regimes ought to come to an agreement over settling their own differences and reach a consensus on a collective stand vis-a-vas the Jewish state. Many people believe that it is unwise and illogical for Arab capitals to open their arms to the Jews while these doors are closed to Arab citizens, argued the writer. What is happening, he said, is total capitulation to the enemy and would not benefit the Arabs in any way. The writer said that he con ed a quick survey among the citizens in Jorum and found out that the majority supports his

Washington Watch

By Dr. James Zogby

Arab-Americans emphasise their role in U.S. politics

OVER RECENT years Arab-Americans have made steady inroads into the U.S. political system. And when the Arab-American Institute (AAI) convenes its 10th anniversary conference in Washington next month, its national leadership will reflect on both a decade of past success and a future filled with oew challenges.

The institute's founding in 1985 marked the growing awareness of Arab-Americans that the further advancement of the community required a concentrated effort to develop political power.

1984 was the first year that Arab-Americans participated as an organised community in the presidential campaigns of both major political parties. The 1984 Reagan-Bush campaign established the first ever Arab-American committee, as did the Jesse Jackson's presidential campaign on the Democratic side.

But that same year also saw Arab-Americans excluded from other national and local campaigns.

With the founding of the AAI as a bipartisan electoral project, Arab-American Republican and Democratic leaders declared their intent to huild on the successes of 1984 and end political exclusion once and for all.

The AAI founding event in 1985 was significant in a number of ways. It opened with an Arab-American leadership meeting with then-President Ronald Reagan. The conference also featured presentations by Senator Robert Dole (R-KS), James Abdnor (R-SD) and Dennis DeConcini (R-AZ). Most importantly the AAI conference issued the document "A Plan that Works" --- which served as the institute's political programme for the next decade.

The plan was simple: increase Arab-American voter registration; target Arab-American involvement in local elections in order to build grass roots political networks; increase Arab-American participation in both the Democratic and Republican parties; focus Arah American community support on Arab-American candidates for public office; and hring Arab-American issues into the mainstream of American electoral politics.

Although there is still much to be achieved, during the past 10 years Arab-Americans have recorded significant progress in all of those areas.

In some communities, voter registration has more than

For example, in Dearborn, Michigan candidates once campaigned against Arah-Americans - now they actively seek the community's support. Dearborn now has an Arab-American city council member and will soon elect a school board member. And in a recent election the Arab-American vote was a critical factor in securing approval

for a new hond issue for the Dearborn school system. The number of Arab Americans in polines has increased dramatically. In seven states Arab Americans sit on the Executive Boards of their state party organisations. In 1988 and 1992 Arab Americans elected almost one thousand of their number to state party delegate positions. And the AAI has established the Arah American Leadership Council, a vehicle which now includes over 250 Arab-American elected officials and party leaders, including dozens of high ranking judges and state senators and leg-

Arab-American access to government has improved substantially from the past on both the national and local levels. In major cities across the U.S. Arab-Americans sit on appointed hoards an commissions and, in some communities, receive grants to support Arab-American social services. And on the national level Arab-Americans are Leading the Republican presence at the conference will us on our "Decision '96" programme.

branches of government.

With five Arab-American members of Congress and Arab-Americans serving in the administration (there have been high ranking Arab-Americans in the past three administrations), the community now has leaders to whom they can bring their concerns and with whom they can

And finally, Arab-Americans have developed the expertise to bring their issues into the American political main-

In 1988, for example, after electing over 500 delegates to state party convenions and passing platform planks in 10 state conventions which supported Palestinian rights and the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon, 55 Arab-Americans were elected delegates to the Democranc National Convention. This was the largest number of Arab- Americans ever to attend a national convention. The previous high was four.

Those 55 formed a coalition with 1,200 other delegates and forced the Democratic Party for the first time to debate the issue of Palestinian statehood. They also succeeded in

"Arab-Americans have learned that the political process in (the U.S.) provides an extraordinary opportunity to secure our rights and improve our lives. It provides our community with the opening to act as a bridge between our U.S. home and our countries of origin."

passing planks for Lehanon and against ethnic stereotyp-

Similarly, AAI's efforts to raise public awareness about Israel's request for \$10 billion in loan guarantees in 1990 and its coalition effort to raise awareness of the dangers to civil liberties posed by the anti-terrorism bill this year also demonstrated Arab-American expertise in raising issues in the polinical process.

And so it is after years of political activism and growing political sophistication that Arab-Americans will gather in Washington from Nov. 9-11 to address the new challenges faced by the community and to plot a strategy for the 1996

An impressive array of U.S. political leaders will head this year's AAI anniversary programme. Two Clinton administration cahinet officials are already confirmed: Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown and Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala. The Arab-American delegates will also receive a hriefing at the White House and then the National Chairman of the Democratic National Comminee.

At least 12 members of the 104th Congress will address the Arab-Americans, including the five Arab-Americans in Congress and both Senate minority leader Tom Daschle (D-SD) and House minority whip David Bonior (D-MI).

national party leaders and have regular access to major be the Arab-American Senator from Michigan, Spencer Abraham, and two candidates for the Republican presidential nomination - Senator Arlen Specter and Pat

Buchanan. And there may yet be more. Other Republican challengers have yet to finalise their schedules for that week, and may include a visit to the cooference. The institute's invitations to President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore to address the conference are also still pending.

In its continuing effort to provide an organising focus to Arab American political activity, this year's conference will feature three unique and important sessions. The first will be the convening of the national organisation of Arab-American judges. There are currently more than 60 Arab-American judges presiding in courtrooms across the coun-

The conference will also witness the first national effort to form a network of the more than 7,000 Arab-American merchants who own and operate stores in the heart of many major U.S. cines. AAl has been working with the merchants in several cities, dealing with their relations with the African-American community, the violence and crime they face daily and the untapped economic and political power of this important group within the Arab-American community.

Finally, the cooference will host a discussion on the question of Arab-American identity. Arab-American leaders nationwide have complained in recent years about the fragmentation of the community along religious, suhnational (and even village) and generational lines. The AAI leaders felt a need to convene a national dialogue on the challenge to our unity and communal identity.

As always, the conference will chart both Arab-American achievements in 1995 and prepare for the community's involvement in the 1996 elections.

This year Arab-Americans face serious issue challenges that require the community to respond. On the domestic side, immigration reform, the need for social services, the threat posed to civil liberties by the anti-terrorism bill and intra-communal relations in our major cities. On foreign policy. Arab-Americans will continue to speak out on the ongoing struggle for Palestinian rights, for recognition of Syrian and Lehanese sovereignty over all of their respective territories, and security, stability and better U.S. relations with the Arah World as a whole.

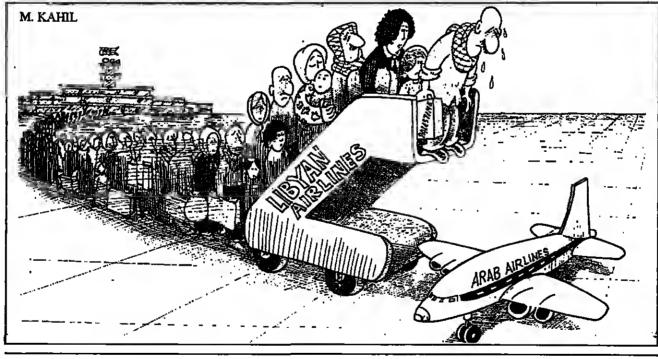
Arab-Americans have learned that the political process in this country provides an extraordinary opportunity to secure our rights and improve our lives. It provides our community with the opening to act as a hridge between our U.S. home and our countries of origin.

We have also learned that we can play a significant role in helping to shape the national dehate on issues that concern us - and that we can best play that role hy becoming participants in the political process.

While there are those who still sit on the sidelines and insist no changes are occurring, a brief look at where we were 20 or the years ago compared with where we are today makes clear that our march is succeeding. Our plan

If we continue to grow in strength, register more voters and increase our involvement in the political process, the next 10 and 20 years will see even more progress.

My invitation to those who wish to participate in this march, or to those who wish to support our programmes, is to join us in Washington from Novr 9-11 to work with



New U.S. foreign policy concept evolving

By Carol Giacomo Reuter

HYDE PARK, N.Y., -President Bill Clinton's new use of emergency powers to strike at Colombia's Cali drugs cartel reflects an evolving concept of U.S. foreign policy focused on updated assessments of security threats.

Aides say his goal is to forge a link between domestic and foreign concerns that will strike a chord with an increasingly isolationist American public.

"People understood during the cold war that, in some concrete sense, the communists were a threat to them, a real danger," one senior U.S. official

But in the post-cold war world, that threat of a specific communist adversary has given way to often vague talk about a "new world order" that has left many Americans questioning the necessity of overseas

engagement. "Americans don't care about the new world order. They care about the things that threaten now, and Mr. Clinton's message is that he understands that," the official told Renters.

The result is that summits with Kremlin leaders, such as the one with Russian President Boris Yeltsin here in upstate New York on Monday, no longer have the dramatic, war-or-peace fascination for Americans that they used to.

Hence the U.S. presi-

dent, who is seeking reelection in 1996 and has struggled with foreign policy during his first term, out-lined a different sort of 21st century global initiative on Sunday.

In a speech at celebrations of the United Nations 50th birthday, he focused on a drive against drug dealers, other international criminals and terrorists.

"People are going to ask, why is Clintoo the right foreign policy president for the second term?', and the answer is that he understands the kinds of threats that matter to the American people," the official said. At the United Nations. Mr. Clinton said he had used national security pow-

ers to freeze assets of the

Cali cartel, Colombia's higgest drug-traffickiog organisation, and to stop U.S. companies from doing business with its froot organisa-

He also directed his cabinet to identify nations that assist in money laundering and to warn them that unless they adhere to international standards, they may face sanctions.

"Criminal eoterprises are moving vast sums of ill-gotten gains through the international financial system with absolute impun-ity," Mr. Clinton said in his speech, "We must not allow them to wash the blood off profits from the sale of drugs from terror or organised crimes."

The U.S. argument is that terrorism, ouclear proliferation, drug trafficking and organised crime transcend national borders, threatening the citizens of both developed and developing nations, especially openmarket democracies.

"You can't deal with drugs alone. You can't deal with terrorism alone. You can't deal with nuclear

smuggling alone. So you need to be involved, you need to have a U.N.. It's all connected to real threats," the U.S. official said.

Geography used to be a predominant force in fore-ign policy but has receded with technology and com-munications advances. "Nation states are still

the most important actors in the system but now we have a whole plethora of other forces," such as multi-national corporanons, he said. "You begin to see the outlines of how one might think of foreign policy in very very different The new theme of 21st

century foreign policy goals has been evolving for nearly a year in weekly brainstorming sessions among a small group including deputy secretary of state Strobe Talbott, the chiefs of staff of the secretaries of state and defence and other officials. Still to be resolved, offi-

cials say, is how institutions like NATO, the United Nations and the Organisation of Security and Cooperatioo in Europe will be trans-

Russian policy may remain if Kozyrev goes -analysts

By Timothy Heritage Reuter

MOSCOW — If Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev was forced to step down it foreign policy.
would set alarm bells ring"If he is right in what he ing in the West but it might not signal a major shift in Russian foreign policy, according to Western and Rossian officials.

President Boris Yeltsin said last week he was ready to back Kozyrev, 44, who has helped build bridges with the West but has been accused in Moscow of allowing Russia to be ignored in international peace moves oo former Yugoslavia.

Speaking last week before leaving for France and the United States, Mr. Yeltsin appared to step back from his threat saying that Mr. Kozyrev's perfor-mance would be improved if he found a good deputy to handle paperwork.

But speculation seems bound to persist around the position of the Boyishlooking foreign minister. the longest-serving cabinet minister.Commentators in Moscow suggested that even if Mr. Kozyrev finally went it would not bring about any immediate major changes in policy.

"Kozyrev's departure will put foreign governments in a tizzy because they will take it as a signal of a change in policy. a Moscow-based Western

diplomat said.
"But it need not mean a change of policy. The alternative is confrontation with the West and I don't think any rational Russian would accept that."

Many Russian commen-

tators agree. pointing out that Mr. Kozyrev has been a loyal servant to Mr. Yeltsin and has to a large

has been saying, he has just been carrying out the president's policy," Alexander Golts, a commentator with the Defence Ministry Krasnaya Zvezda.

extent followed his lead in

"There would be no change in policy if he said Sergei went," Karaganov, deputy head of the Institute of Europe thinktank. "It (foreign policy) has to be led by the president and his appara-

Mr. Kozyrev himself has argued that the Foreign Ministry's work has been hindered hy losing good workers because of the low wages the ministry offers.

Foreign governments appear to agree that financial restraints under market reforms have left him little room for manoeuvre and recognise the need to "sell" Russian policy to hardliners and nationalists in parliament,

This, diplomats say, would limit the scope of Mr. Kozyrev's successor.

Russian politics leave little room for manoeuvre. The problem is having to work in such as way as to convince the politicians here that you are defending Russian interests, one Western diplomats said.

"In fact, they are inclined to be a hit more llexible in talks than public rhetoric suggests. Some of their comments must be seen in

can wear uniforms and carry

Palestinian police want to

The first few Palestinian

officers are expected in Jenin

on Wednesday, the official

start of the withdrawal, although the bulk of the

1,000 Palestinian police to be

posted in Jenin are not sup-posed to arrive until Nov. 14.

Israel opposes a military

convoy, which would drive

through the West Bank from

Jericho to Jenin. Jericho and

the Gaza Strip have been

Palestinian-ruled since last

year, under the terms of the

initial Israel-PLO autonomy

enter in civilian dress and without weapons," said Mr.

Musa. "The way they enter

Jenin is very important to us

and we reject the Israeli

trailers at army headquarters

in Jenin on Tuesday, and

Palestinians decorated the

city with flags and balloons.
"From the moment I was

born, I saw Israeli soldiers,'

said Khaled Bisher, 24, an

unemployed physical therap-

ist in Jenin. "I'll be happy to

see some Palestinian police

Palestinian and Israeli

officers were to meet late

Tuesday to try to resolve the

dispute over how the police

Bank police chief Brig, Gen.

Hai Ismail to storm out of a

meeting Monday with Israeli

Mr. Musa said the dispute

enter the city.

Israeli soldiers dismantled

'The Israelis want them to

agreement.

proposal.

politics

from Michigan, Spencer for the Republican press of Arlen Specter and Par Other Republican chal-

guns when they move in. at and Vice President Al enter Jenin, the first West Bank city to be turned over ity, this year's conference to Palestinian control under an expanded Israel-PLO aportant sessions. The first autonomy agreement, armed sound organisation of Arab. and in uniform, driving militrently more than 60 Arab ary vehicles, Kadoura Musa, an aide to PLO chief Yassser our resource across the com-Arafat, said Tuesday.

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recounts the need by self-Russian points to hardin

The problem is having a work in such as war is CONTINUE THE POLITICAL PROPERTY. here that you are defended.

fessional unions, including

Israel, PLO snagged over Jenin withdrawal details

(Agencies) — A day before Israel is supposed to start Jenin Governor Hikmat withdrawing from, this West Zeid said be expected the Bank city, Israel and the Palestine Liberation Orgadispute to be resolved. The most important thing nisation (PLO) were squabis that the Palestinian pobce bling over details - including whether Palestinian police

arrive in Jenin. It does not matter the way they enter," Mr. Zeid said. A second dispute arose

over the date for completing redeployment in Jenin, Israel Radio said. Palestinians want Israel out by Nov. 13, six days earlier than originally agreed, the report said. Israel is considering the demand, the report said. In

any case, Israel is scheduled to move out of the Jenin police station Wednesday and begin the transfer of authorities io the city.

Foreign ministry director general Uri Savir agreed Monday that the army could speed up its pullout from Jenin, the first of six Palestinian towns to be evacuated by the end of the year.

We may make an effort at the request of the Palestinian (National) Authority (PNA) to advance the date of the end of the Jenin withdrawal," be said.

"The redeployment will begin by settiog up a coop-eration bureau in the Jenin district to oversee the transition," Mr. Savir explained.

"Then there will be a three-week period when the army will complete its withdrawal and during which civil powers will be banded over on November 5."

During those three weeks Israel will remain responsible for maintaining law and order, and only once the last troops bave left will the Palestioian police take charge," Mr. Savir said.

The police station in Jenin, which has 50 men, is to be transferred to the Jewish settlement of Mevo Dotan, 10 kilometres away, at the start of the pullout.

By the end of December, Tulkarem, Nablus, Qalkiliya, Ramailah and Bethlehem are also due to have been banded over to Palestinian control to allow elections to a self-rule

council to take place in Janu-

Special arrangements have been made for the flashpoint town of Hebron where soldiers will remain to protect 400 settlers living among 120,000 Palestinians.

The Israeli army earlier this month quit four Palestinian villages on the West Bank ending 28 years of occupation.

An Israeli peace group urged Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to prevent Jewisb settlers from hailding a shopping mall in the West Bank which the group said would sabotage peace moves with Palestinians. A settler spokesman said

that a Swiss investor had signed a contract to build a 5,300 square-metre mail on the road to Nablus and that a committee under Mr. Rabin had approved the project.

Mr. Rahin's office said there would be no comment, if any, antil the prime minis-. ter returned late in the week from an official visit to the United States. The political secretary of

Israel's Peace Now, Mossi Raz, wrote in a letter sent to Mr. Rabin on Monday: The construction will

sabotage the peace process and strengthen its opponents. I request you delay building in the area and bring the subject to the ministerial committee (on huilding)." Several left-wing cabinet

members sit on the ministe-

rial committee and would likely oppose the project. Palestician security officials said on Monday they bad arrested a ring of Arab collaborators with Israel on suspicion of killing at least two Palestinian policemen

and one militant. Palestinian officers said those arrested had been recruited by Israel when it occupied the Gaza Strip. One said the killings, after Gaza came under Palestinian rule, were an effort to destabilise the Gaza Strip.

An Israeli army spokeswoman said: "We won't comment on this because it bas nothing to do with us."

Iraq that followed the Gulf

the occupation. other prisoners were alleged-

Baghdad denies it holds

ly buried in Kuwait.

U.N. MEETINGS: Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat walks with Norwegian Prime Minister Harlem Brundtland after a meeting on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly special session (AFP photo)

U.N. event draws to a close

(Continued from page 1)

The Bosnian government and army will not accept the division and disintegration of our country, no matter what packaging it may be served," Mr. Izetbegovic said, speaking to a nearly empty General Assembly ball. "The division of Bosnia will lead to the continoation of war, im-mediately or later."

Mr. Izetbegovic and leaders of Croatia and Serbia meet Oct. 31 in Ohio for U.S.-sponsored peace talks. Rebel Bosnian Serbs' selfstyled parliament voted Monday to demand the right to

secede from Bosnia, The president said democratic elections under interoational supervision were the best way to bring peace to Bosnia. "We have heard nice and noble words on democracy, freedom and all that comes with it," be said.

"Let us listen to what they are saying but let us ask them what they are doing," Mr. Izetbegovic said of the Serbs. "As soon as they return bome, unfortunately, they will continue their course. It is op to us to stop them."

Senate votes to move embassy

ment.

The final version of the Dole hill said that half the State Department's operating funds would be withheld if the embassy was not opened in Jerusalem hy May 31, 1999.

It also earmarks \$100 million in fiscal 1996 and 1997 for construction of a new diplomatic mission in Jeru-

But in addition to allowing a series of six-month waivers, which essentially render any deadline moot, the bill also departs from the tougher earher version by dropping a requirement that construction in Jerusalem begin in

Members of Mr. Clinton's Democratic Party joined with the Republican majority in the Senate to support moving the U.S. embassy to Jeru-

"Moving the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem will send the right signal not a destructive signal," said Senator Joseph Biden, a Democrat from Del-

"To do no less would be to play into the hands of those who have tried the hardest to deny Israel the full attribution of statehood,'

"The location of the U.S. embassy never was and never

need for overcoming differ-

ences in views and to work

towards restoring normal re-

Petra did not give details.

But the two leaders were

expected to have discussed

the situation in the Middle

East region with particular

focus on Iraq in the wake of

recent developments that in-

cluded the defection of high-

King Hussem and Prince

Soltan were also expected to

have discussed setting a date

for a meeting between the Monarch and Kiog Fahd, the

impending visit of Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud

Al Faisal and Saudi participa-

tion in next week's Middle

ranking Iraqi officials.

(Continued from page 1) House or the State Depart- should be the subject of the (peace) negotiations," said Senator Joseph Lieberman, a Democrat of Connecticut. "It is our decision. It is an Amer-

> ican decision. Senator Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, a Republican, declared that the U.S. embassy should be located in "the capital of Israel, which is the custom for all our other emhassies.

> Earlier Tuesday, Syria warned that prospects for Arab-Israeli peace will be weakened if the U.S. Congress approved moving the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem.

The daily Tisbrin, the government's leading newspap-er, said the legislation "will inflict gross damage on the American role in the peace process and might undermine the whole peace process."

Tishrin said that a decision

to move the U.S. embassy to

Jerusalem "means recognition of Israel's occupation of the city. It represents America's flagrant bias in favour of Tishrin singled out for attack Mr. Dole, who hopes

to be U.S. president when the move takes place. Mr. Dole, said Tishrin,

should not seduce American voters at the expense of other people's rights."

Jordan's drive to achieve just

and durable peace in the re-

The King also met with

Deputy Prime Minister of

Oman Fahd Ben Mohammad

Al Saeed and discussed

Jordanian-Omani relations

King Hussein received the

presidents of Lithuania, the

Philippines and the Danish

prime minister and discussed

Jordan's relations with their

The Danish premier said

that his government had de-

cided to reschedule Jordan's

debts to Denmark over a

period of three years through

the Paris Cluh in appreciation

of Jordan's endeavours to-

wards peace and its resump-

tion of the development pro-

president of Tajikistan, who

extended an invitation to the

King to visit his country. He

also expressed his country's

appreciation of the King's

role in the peace process.
King Hussein met also with

the prime minister of the

Netherlands, who discussed

hilateral relations, noting that a Dutch embassy would

be opened in Amman in early

On Monday evening, the

Kiog met with Algerian Pres-

ident Liamine Zeroual and

discussed pan-Arah affairs.

Queen Noor attended a re-

ceptioo hosted by President

The King also received Prince Sidi Mohammad, the

crown prince of Morocco,

who conveyed to the King

greetings from King Hassan

II. The King and the prince

discussed the MENA confer-

Bill Clinton.

The King and Her Majesty

The King also met with the

cess in the country.

and the peace process.

countries.

(Continued from page 1)

King meets Saudi leader

firmed that his country was taking active part in the comto end the expulsions. ing event. He paid tribute to

Qadhafi says he will continue expulsions

SIRTE, Libya (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi said Tuesday be would continue bis expulsion of African workers from his country but added that "one

day" they would return.
"Libya will not do without workers from neighbouring nations — Egypt, Sudan, Ni-ger, Chad, Tunisia and Algeria. I think they will return one day but in a different way," Colonel Qadhafi told a press conference. "Because of (Lihya's poli-

cv of) open borders, they now work without permits or identification or medical check-ups, so diseases have spread," be said in his administrative capital Sirte, west

"AIDS came to Libya carried by foreign workers, and there are 20 cases of cholera in Abjadia because of foreign workers," he said.

Col. Qadhafi also told reporters he would make a declaration on Wednesday about the expulsion of Palestinians from his country on the condition you publish honestly wbat I say today.' "The term expolsion which

the colonialist media have used is a huge historical mistake. This is a return, not an expulsion, whether it is by their own will (the Palesnnians) or against their will to push them to return," he

Col. Qadhafi began throwing out the 30,000 Palestinians living in Libya in September, saying it was time for them to return to their bomeland

Meanwhile, the Arab League asked Col. Qadhafi to allow 1,000 Palestinians stranded on the Libyan border to return to their homes for three months.

Esmat Abdul Meguid, the league's secretary-general, urged Col. Qadhafi to rethink his decision to expel the Palestinians. After three months, Col. Qadhafi would then be free to deport them, be said.

"In the end, of course, it is Libya's decision because it is a sovereign state," Dr. Abdul Meguid said.

Col. Qadhafi did not respond to the request, which follows repeated efforts by the Arab League and other Arab leaders to persuade bim

Col. Qadhafi has said all 30,000 Palestinians in Libya, some of whom have lived there for decades, should leave in a campaign designed to demonstrate his opposition to the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) peace accords.

The 1,000 Palestinians stranded for weeks in military tents on the Libyan-Egyptian border have complained of a lack of drinking water and food. U.N. officials say conditioos have markedly worsened, and dozens of children are suffering from di-

Another 600 Palestinians expelled by Libya and stranded off the island of Cyprus reached the Syrian port of Latakia on Monday after an 11-day ferry ordeal across the Mediterranean

Most Arab countries, including Egypt, have refused the Palestinians entry because they lack travel docu-

ments. The United Nations said on Tuesday it was sending survival goods for the Palestinians trapped in the no-man's

land hetween Egypt and A convoy of seven trucks carrying one-month's worth of food supplies, mineral water, blankets, clothing, soap

and cooking utensils was due to arrive by mid-day at Al Saloum on the border. "Conditions at the border have continued to deteriorate," a spokeswoman for the U.N. High Commissioner for

Refugees (UNHCR) told a news briefing in Geneva. A Palestinian baby boy whose parents are among thousands being expelled by Lihya died in a Libyan hospital shortly after his birth last Thursday, the agency re-

vealed at the weekend. Doctors attributed bis death to the appalling conditions endured by the mother during the last weeks of ber pregnancy. It was the first death reported among deportees since expulsions began in

August. There are another 15 pregnant womeo in the camp who are now terrified about the possible fate of their own unborn children. Another 120 children are suffering from diarrhoea," the spokes-

Menem is told Israel not behind attack on Iranian

UNITED NATIONS (Ageocies) — Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin assured Argentine President Carlos Menem Monday that Israel had oothing to do with the shooting of an Iranian diplomat in Buenos Aires over the

weekend. Iranian Charge d'Affaires Hassan Ali Rajabi Yazdi was shot in the chest at pointblank range by a man on a motorcycle Saturday as he was getting ont of his car in froot of his bouse.

The diplomat survived the attack, which Iran said was an act of terrorism by "Pro-Zionist elements."

"We still don't know if the attack was a robbery or an assassinatioo attempt," Mr. Menem said after his meeting with Mr. Rabio.

Israel "rules ont all responsibility" for the attack, Mr. Menem said. The case has to be treated

with great care and we are investigating in depth," Mr. Menem said. Irao's ambassador to

Argentina was withdrawn last year in protest over allega-tions that Tehran was behind the bombing of a Jewish charity in Buenos Aires oo July lations."

18, 1994 that left 86 dead. Two Argentines are in custody to that attack on suspicion of supplying the vehicle used in the car bombiog. Io March 1992, 29 people

were killed and more than 200 were wounded in a bombing of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires that has never been solved. Iraniao oewspapers

blamed the shooting on Israel and the Iraq-hased Mujahedeen-e-Khalq opposition group. The Mujahedeen who de-

nied the charge. The Eoglish-laoguage Tehran Times claimed the charge d'affaires was shot in a joint-operatioo betweeo

Israel and the opposition The terrorist act is likely to be the outcome of an alignment between the terrorist Mujahedeen-e-Khalq organisation and Zionist ter-

rorist groups." It said there was a double reason for the shooting: "The Ziooists have a veodetta against Iran, and, on the other band, they try to follow the same strategy in disturbmg Tehran-Buenos Aires re-

Jordan to finalise loans (Continued from page 1)

funds would he adjusted its foreign exchange reserves thus uoconditional.

"This is the first time that Jardaneb. He did not give the terms of the loans.

After adjusting the already disbursed \$135 million the net inflow of funds to the Jordanian reserves will be around \$172 million, including the Italian loan, and this would raise the Kingdom's foreign exchange reserves to more than \$600 million, the finance minister said.

"The idea is continued buildings of our foreign exchange reserves and meet the IMF-set target before the end of the year," he said.

Jordan is bound by a commitment to the IMF to raise

to the equivalent of three months of imports — about \$700 million — before the end of the current fiscal year in December, Mr. Jardaneh noted. According to economic analysts, the World Bank

loans will turn Jordan into a 'net barrower" from the bank after several years. The analysts noted that Jordanian repayment of loans to the World Bank exceeded World Bank loans to the Kingdom in recent years. Definite figures were not immediately

rectification of a situation

which continued for several vears," said an analyst, also noting the surprisingly quick conclusion of the loan agreement with Japan — in slightly over one month after Mr. Murayama made the pledge.

West Bank military comman-'UAE, Iraq to launch contacts'

Kuwait on Tuesday to discuss with Kuwaiti government representatives the fate of

Iragi invasion.

vers providing protection.

more than 600 prisoners of war missing since the 1990

(Continued from page 1) send. Humanitarian supplies tier since August, is sponare exempt from the embar- sored by the International Committee of the Red Cross

sessions.

The two-day meeting, the third to be beld on the fronprisoners," a Kuwaiti official told the Associated Press.

(Continued from page 1) A: Our educated workforce is essential; it's our best foot forward. Human resource development is Jordan's greatest asset. We've absorbed three, four waves of refugees, but our approach has always been assimilative. We're not an oil-producing country but

we've done relatively well in terms of our buman re-So why should Cairo be considered more influential just because there are more people there? Or Rivadh. because it bas more calth? Or Tel Aviv, because it has "friends at court"? Or Damascus, because it is more strident? I think Jordan can be pivotal in showing that pluralism, when coupled with a degree of parity between

communities, can lead to peace and stability. Q: How hard is Jordan trying to win investment from the Gulf?

A: Politically, it is still a rather slow and painstaking business when it comes to the Gulf, though individual countries, like Oman and Qatar, are being forthcoming regarding specific projects like natural gas. But Gulf reticence is not really related to Jordan at all. It's a trend born of domestie concerns, such as oil prices and so on. The sad thing, of course, is that it was business as usual when it came to the bundreds of billions spent on weapons during the Gulf crisis — as opposed to the \$45 billion

gional development from www.until the year 2000. Q: It is now a year since Jordan and Israel signed a peace treaty, but other than tourism, the normalisation of relations has been much slower than the palace initially hoped. Pro-

estimated total cost of re-

Prince outlines expectation the Journalists' Associa-

tioo, actively boycott

Israel. A: I find this rather sad, but the good news is that we are beginning to focus in-house on just what the professional unions are aboot. Medical specialists in Jordan, for example, wbo might want to hold a dialogue with their Israeli counterparts, face the bread-and-butter reality at the moment of the strength of their union. Maybe we doo't have the strength of dialogue, we'd have hoped, hut this has led to a tremendous soul-searching on our side, regarding freedom of choice and so on. Still, the number of visitors on both sides has been most eocouragiog. Let's hope, of course, that prog-ress is made on the Palestinian National Aothority front so that the ostensible reason, (for Jordanian re-Inctance to normalise relations with Israel) will be

are not being apathetic about the situation. Q: It is often said that other than in the tourism sector, the Jordanian people are disappointed that they have not yet enjoyed 'the "fruits of peace." What exactly are they expecting? A: An improvement in their economic and social conditions. But these are related more to decades upon decades of a no-warno-peace situation rather than to the signing of a treaty between Israel and Jordan; to a public sector economy and a private sector that was unable to shoulder its responsibilities. The desire is really for the fruits of stability more than the fruits of peace.

Bot unfortunately, there is

this tendency to overbur-

den the peace process with

unrelated intangibles.

removed. Meanwhile, we

There has been no word on the outcome of the previous "We're hoping they'll bave oew responses about more

any prisoners from the Gulf crisis. It says it arrested 123 Kuwaitis and other nationals during its seven-month occupation of the emirate, but claims it lost track of them during the unrest by Shiite Muslims in southern

Iraq bas, however, returned the remains of a prisoner who allegedly died after his capture in Kuwait during

Iraq has also given information on where two

Kuwait 'softens'

its position

(Continued from page 1) said Kuwait would be represented by Abdul Mohsen Al Hunaif, the Finance Ministry undersecretary, Bader al Humaidhi, director-general of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, and Faisal Al Mukhaizeem, charge d'affaires at Kuwait's

embassy in Amman. The officials said they could not confirm or decy the report.

Jordan, Israel sign accord

(Continued from page I)

agriculture will sign an accord on agricultural cooperatioo at Beit Shean in northern Israel. A draft agreement on transport, includiog civil aviation, is now under review by a ministerial advisory cooncil, the officials said. They could not say when the review would be over and whether further negotiations were needed before the draft

could be finalised. The trade accord will clear the way for direct exports and imports between the two sides under separate classifications of preferential treatment. It also contains a provision oo investments in each other's territory subject to the recently endorsed Jordanian iovestment promotion

law. The accord on agricultural cooperation sets anooal

measures such as the reduc-

tion of taxes to fight poverty.

bopes to build regional

mechanism like banks and

regional centres for economic

planning and consultation;

and to seek world help to

Prince Hassan said that the

construction of the region

could be carried out through

understanding and commit-

ment, adding that no party

develop the region.

The Regent said Jordan

Israeli exports to Jordan.

Jordan voices satisfaction

The agreement also gives Israel the right to export to Jordan products that the Kingdom currently imports from other countries. According to Israeli spokesman Ronny Hassid, quoted

farmers of Jordan and burts

dan can export to Israel at 50,000 tonnes of fresh fruit and vegetables, 30,000 live sheep, 2,000 tonnes of cheese and 900 tonnes of olive oil, according to reports.

by the Associated Press, milk is an item that could lead The peace is a good peace, but this bas warmed it a little," said Mr. Hassid. This agreement helps the

Israeb farmers a little." Mr. Hassid added that Israel hoped the Uoited States and Europe would

ease restrictions on Israeli imports to counter any losses quotas for produce that Jorto Israeli agriculture.

(Continued from page I) elements of peace which help can plan or decide the future them to build institutions and of the other. launch cooperation, be said. The Amman conference will offer the region a chance Jordao hopes that the peace era will help its people to present itself as a region to attain a better standard of where all ethnic groups and living, said the Prince, noting followers of different faiths that the government had ean conperate and live already introduced economic together in harmony and

peace without any discri-

But, he said, the city

should be open to the follow-

ers of the monotheistic faiths

since Jerusalem should re-

main a symbol of peace.

mination, he said. As to Jerusalem, be said, be could not predict the status of the city because the question of Jerusalem was left until the last phase of the negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians.

East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit in Amman. Also on Tuesday, King Hussem met with the head of

the United Nations Special Commission in charge of dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction Rolf Ekeus. who briefed bim on his latest Mr. Ekeus stressed that

> mission and alleviate the suffering of the Iraqi people. King Hussein also met with heads of Jewisb groups in New York who voiced their appreciation and admiration for his leadership, vision and efforts to establish peace in the Middle East. The two meetings were attended by

Iraq's cooperation with the

commission would enable the

committee to complete its

Ben Shaker and Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem. King Hussein also held talks with Deputy Prime Minister of Qatar Sheikh Abdullah Beo Khalifeb Al Thani and discussed with bim the MENA summit.

Prime Minister Sharif Zeid

'Agreement is not binding' (Continued from page 1)

southern beach of Aqaba. The approval of the ARA board and its consideration by the Cabinet was a precon-Dr. Khasawneh also said dition for the project.

The Qatari leader reaf- ence.

In an interview with Al Ra'i, Mr. Jardaneh said the 'cabinet" tended not to approve the contents of the letter of intent because the company does not meet all the necessary requirements for carrying out the project."

Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Abdul Ilah Al Khatib said the Makad

group, which showed interest in carrying nut the project. was a well-known company.

tbe agreement was only letter of intent to set up the tourism investment project, adding that it was not binding and did not imply any financial obligations on any party. Dr. Khasawneh said the official government parties did not endorse the document, which only dealt with the mechanism for leasing the plot of land on which the project was to be established.

against already disbursed IMF credits to Jordan and

any country is getting such a favourable treatment and arrangement" from the IMF or the World Bank, said Mr.

> available, however 'The new credit comes as a

it schedules for that week conference The manner are also still pending. cide an organism focusio

iess the first national effort (ILII) 7 (000) Arab-American ate stores in the hear of has been working with the ending with their relations.

ltost a discussion on the mitty Arab American lead d in resent years about the ity along religious, submagenerational lines. The AAI a utitional dialogue on the munial identity

5 and prepare for the com-196 elections ace serious issue challenges respond on the domestic need for social services, the value and sterrorism bill and in major effice On foreign

sex of accomer an play a significantible al delivate on issues that ontiplies manifold by becoming

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mentaret with the Deloc Ministry Klasnaya Zvezda charge in policy of k the Institute of Emp

argued that the Fores Ministry's work has he hindered by Joseph and Workers because of the water the nameny offer Protein guernistis appear to agree that first cui restrants under make reloins have left him life

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Mexader Golfs. 4 80

ers and utiliotalists in pa This, diplomals of would hant the scape a Mi Kuyyer's sheessel "Russim politics on Intic recent for management

Russian interests and Western diplomets active In t.c.t. they are the in to be a bit more leading talks than public right success. Some of the connicus must be seen this light."

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Palestinian projects for Amman **Economic Summit estimated at \$6b**

USIA staff writer

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM - The Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PEC-DAR) hopes to attract an estimated \$6,000 million from investors or partners to fund projects in Palestine. Details of the possible projects will be available at the Oct. 29-31 Amman Economic Summitt conference, authoritative Palestinian sources disclosed here Mon-

Projects for water, a sensitive issue between the Israelis and the Palestinians, will receive the lion's share, estimated to cost \$1,930,000, while agriculture receives the least attention, with \$50,300,000 in projects.

These projects were prepared by an inter-ministerial and private sector committee under the leadership of PEC-DAR.

A little more than 57 per cent of the Palestinian projects, which will be published in a "thick-volume," later this week, are specifically

Bank or the Gaza SAtrisp. The remainder of the projects are described as "joint or unspecified," these Palestinian sonrces said. Join projects are ooes to be undertaken with any combination of the neighbouring states — Egypt, Jordan and Israel.

One of these projects, it was revealed, will be undertaken by Egypt, Israel and Palestinian Anthority and calls for the construction of a bigbway linking Ashdod Israel), Gaza and Ismailia Egypt), where a "coastal riviera" is to be established in this sontheastern Mediterranean area. The road is estimated to cost, according to Palestinians, about \$184 mil-

The price tag for the projected road networks in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, these sources said, is \$1,000 million. Of that amount, \$961,000,000 will go to the Gaza Strip, a much smaller area than the West

There are, bowever, joint highway projects linking the Total \$5,971,900,000

Palestinian areas with Jordan, Egypt and Israel and these are expected to cost an additional \$358,000,000.

apprehension voiced by va-

rious business leaders here

over the movement of people

and goods under the new

agreement signed last month

in Washington expanding Palestinian self-rule to the

bave been explaining to the

Palestinian private sector that

"a great opportunity will be missed" if the Palestinians

were to absent themselves

from the Amman summit,

which is expected to be

attended by more than 1,000

government and business

eaders from 60 countries.

men's concern stems from

their fears that goods and

people will not move freely

within the West Bank or to

the ontside world under the

new agreement with Israel.

agreement, there will be total

Israeli pulloot from the cities,

except for Hebron, and rede-

ployment among Palestinian

villages. Movement within

the Palestinian countryside

will be monitored by Israeli

actual average growth from

Saudi Arabia this year re-

paid all its foreign deht but it

still has to meet estimated

local deht of more than \$20

hillion to banks and billions

of rivals in arrears to contrac-

tors. It has already paid ab-

out a third of the estimated

\$5 billion debt to contractors

mainly through issuing spe-

will be another bond issue or

an international loan," one

The bankers and econom-

ists said there was talk of new

projects coming up, but not

much was expected to hap-

pen until existing ones in

telephones and power got off

"It does not look like there

cial bonds.

the ground.

security forces.

Under the just-concluded

The Palestinian husiness-

Western diplomats bere

West Bank.

Among the eye-catching projects which fall under the category "transportation & roads" is a road linking Gaza to Aqaba which has been estimated to cost \$350 million, and a "Middle East railroad" which will cost \$290

The building of a seaport for Gaza will cost \$62,000,000 while an airport there will need \$75,000,000. The "list of projects pre-

pared for the Amman Economic Summit" and the cost estimates are as follows: Transportation & railroads \$1,358,000,000 Power \$510,300,000

Water \$1,930,000,000 Environment \$618,600,000 Tourism \$203,800,000 Agriculture \$50,300,000 Export & industrialisation \$621,383,000

Other projects \$690,750,000

Israel to present 218 regional development options/projects to Amman summit

By Beatrix Immenkamp Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN - The develop-

ment options and projects which the government of Israel will present at the forthcoming Middle East and North Africa Summit (MENA) share one common feature - almost all are regional in outlook and will depend for their realisation on cooperation between at least two nanonal govern-

ments Published in a large book under the fitle of "Development Options for Cooperation: The Middle East/East Mediterranean Region." the 2t8 options/projects focus on cooperation between Israel. Jordan, the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) and Egyot, but also envisage the inclusion of countries such as Syria, Lebanon, Iraq. Turkey, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states into the likes of regional electricity grids, transport networks and

oil and gas pipeline systems. The total investment needed for the implementation of all 218 projects would be \$24.7 hillion.

"The projects are the result of one year of deliberations and negotiations between Israel and Jordan." the second secretary for press and cultural affairs of the Israeli Embassy in Amman, Shalom Turgeman, told the Jordan Times, "Initially, the projects were prepared by the Israeli government for presentation at the Casablanca summit. What you have now for the Amman summit is a renewed version of the projects which take into consideration the views of both Israe! and Jordan."

According to Mr. Turgeman, the most important project to be presented at the Amman summit is the joint Israeli-Jordanian international airport in Aqaba, for which a feasibility study is being conducted by a subsidiary of the U.S. company Lockhead. "First results of the feasibility

conference, which means that for those who want to invest in the airport, details will be available" Mr. Turgeman Jordan and Israel have in

principle agreed to expand the existing Jordanian airport in Agaba by building an additional runway close to the border with tsrael with some sections on Israeli territory. Cooperation in the use of the airfield would take the form of a common terminal complex, with the terminal divided into two sections — an Israeli and a Jordanian section, divided by an internanonal passage. Management of the facility would be joined, as would be maintenance services and airport administration. International traffic to Eilat would be transferred to the new Jordanian-Israeli airport. According to figures published by the Israeli government, the project would require an estimated \$100 million in investment.

Feasibility studies are also under way on other projects. such as the Red Sea-Dead Sea canal, which would carry water from the Red Sea to replenish the fast-diminishing waters of the Dead Sea. But no other project is as likely to be implemented in the near future as the "Airport of

Peace." Mr. Turgeman said. The foreward to the compilation of government proposals does not fail to point out that development options presented in the book are of a preliminary nature and only comprise an inventory of ideas for possible developments in the region which do. however, require further study, discussion and evaluation as well as approval by concerned parties.

AMMBITE

Unscramble these four dumbles, one letter to each square, to form

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include a South East Mediterianean Riviera protions and projects fall within jeet. Gulf of Aqaba tourism the sectors of tourism (31 development, Dead Sea tourprojects), water (28), transism development, integration portation (22), telecomof electricity grids, gas pipemunications (22), public lines, bridges and crossing health (20), energy (18), points and the seiting up of logistics, trade and industry special economic routes. All (to), environment (to), human resources (15), agricul-ture (13), comhating deserti-fication (t2) and parks (5). The tourism sector leads of these projects are also mentioned among Israel's Development Options for Cooperation.

with 3t proposed develop-

ment options and projects.

Overall estimated investment figures reach \$2 billion. Pro-

jects include tounst attrac-

tions such as "The Lowest

Park on Earth" around the

Dead Sea, a Coral Reef Park

in the Gulf of Aqaba, a Jordan Rift Valley Cultural

Heritage Park, a South East-

ern Mediterranean Riviera

and a Sand Dune Park in

Northern Sinai, All projects

would require the setting up

of transport and hotel infras-

tructure. A long-term goal

would be to offer combined

regional packages for sight-

seeing and touring, including

Israel, Syria, Jordan, the

PNA. Egypt and Saudi Ara-

bia, and offening historical.

archaeological and religious

attractions for Jewish, Christ-

In terms of geographical

location, regional develop-

ment options and projects

focus on three main areas, the Jordan Rift Valley, the

Gulf of Agaba and the South

Eastern Mediterranean coast

between the Suez Canal in

Egypt and Israel's southern

Summit programme released

by the World Economic

projects to be presented at

the summit by Israel, Egypt.

Jordan and the PNA will

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

WHAT THE

ACCELERATED

DRIVER TRAINING

CLASS TURNED INTO.

Now arrange the circled letters to

form the surprise answer, as sug-gested by the above cartoon.

coast of Gaza.

ian and Muslim visitors.

Among the development options and projects most interesting for Jordan, which suffers from chronic watershortages, are the proposed Jordan Rift Villey water projects. These include the Adassiva Diversion Dam on the Yarmouk River, which would increase the supply of water to the King Abdullah Canal, a water storage system on the Jordan River which would permit the storage of water for the dry summer months, and proposals for cooperation in water management, wastewater reclamation, desalination projects and surface and groundwater utilisation. The total estimated investment needed for the proposed projects is \$9 billion, according to Israeli government figures.

An important area for cooperation between Israel and Jordan identified in the book is the Dead Sea potash industry and the interconnection of Dead Sea logistics.

According to information released by the Istach embassy Tuesday, attendance of the Amman summit has been confirmed by Israeli Prime coastal plains, including the Minister Yitzhak Rabin. According to the MENA Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Industry and Trade Manister Micha Harish and Planning and Economic De-Forum, the joint regional velopment Minister Yossi Berlin, Eighty-one private businessmen have registered for the conference.

HOROSCOPE

EORECAST FOR WEDNES-

DAY, OCTOBER 25, 1995 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer- Carroll Righter Astrological

Foundation ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Don't disagree with anyone at home during the daytime today and in the evening. Enjoy only pleasures which are not cosily.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Think before you speak even one sacrastic word to a partner during the daytime today and in the evening or there could be a great disagreement developing.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Find ways of economising during the daytime today, and cut down on expenses. Study your books or records for accuracy and make out the necessary repons.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Be conscientious to those who are close to you. Get your appearance improved before you go out socially. Adopt a kinder attitude toward your

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You have plans which require practical methods in order to make them a success in the daytime today, but in the evening, you see how to gain more prosperity. VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) This is not a good day today to ask a pal for assistance concerning an interest which means much to you, so bide you time until a more appropriate

moment. Be patient. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Don't attempt to force any issues in business or personal life today. Avoid an influential person who is apt to be on the

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Keep promises you have made to your loved ones and don't go off on any foolish tangents. Avoid the limelight this evening.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 10 December 21) Be sure to go over accounts and he certain they are correct and accurate today. whether financial obligations of collections are to be made.

CAPRICORN: [December 22 in January 20) Don't let an emotional associate confuse you today, and later tonight forget all about husiness affairs which must be dealt with.

AQUARIUS: (Junuary 21 to February 19) Get business netivities handles which you have promised to accomplish today. and don't try to make any changes. Listen to the ideas of a hlusterer tonight. PISCES: (February 20 to March

20) This is not a day to get into pleasures which you know linle about, so accomplish your assignments during the daytime and rest up tonight. Birthstone of October: Opal

– Tourmaline

Saudi economy looks brighter, but woes persist

DUBA1 (R) — Saudi Arabia's economy looks brighter than expected so far this year, but the oil giant's financial woes are far from over, economists and bankers bave

They spoke of a general feeling of more confidence due to bigher oil prices and a squeeze on spending, more liquidity and less gloom in the business community.

But Saudi leaders cannot relax yet, they cautioned. They still have to keep a tight grip on spending, repay hillions of dollars in local deht and raise funding for huge projects like a \$6 hillion deal to huy U.S. planes.

"The economy is better than we all thought at the beginning of the year," one Saudi-hased economist said. "It is not out of the woods, it is not very hright, hot is better than expected.

"It is a combination of several factors — better oil enerally netter level of confidence and a slight improvement in the stock market," he added.

Monetary Fund (IMF) is expected to recognise the relative improvement in the financial bealth of the kingdom this month after two yeas of highlighting its deficit

"The IMF is expected to give it a reasonably good one banker said. The IMF team was in Saudi in May and June when the price of oil was at its highest this year

Saudi has been benefiting from higher oil prices and there is talk the hudget might be in balance this year because of that," another hanker said. "There is less gloom around than six months ago and a lighter feel about the business environment."

Economists and hankers said the government was sticking to its hudget. They expected the new cabinet to inject more vigour into the economy and help husiness pick up now that the summer are over.

Saudi oil revenues are rising because of higher prices, earning it an estimated \$2.5 Even the International hillion more than forecast in

the budget, which projects state oil receipts of \$33 billion this year out of a total \$36

billion income. Saudi Arahia, suffering cash-flow sbortages due to weak oil prices in the past two years and the cost of the 1991 Gulf war, in January announced a \$40 billion hudget for 1995, cutting spending by six per cent and rorecasting a \$4 hillion de-

The economists and hankers said official data on economic performance so far this year was not available, but they saw positive signs in monetary figures issued by the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency for the first-quarter

The figures showed Saudi Arabia's broadest measure of money supply, M3, rising hy 1.7 per cent in the firstquarter. This compared with a 0.1 per cent rise in the first-quarter of 1994. The 1995-2000 develop

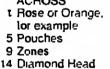
ment plan targets an average annual real economic growth rate of 3.8 per cent, which hankers said was the same as



My wedding dress was so tight, it cut off the circulation to my brain!"

"I don't remember why I married him.

THE Daily Crossword by Lyell Rodieck



15 Pale 16 Puccini work 17 Redding of music

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1995 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

5 Persian ruler

7 Chiel cook

9 Anne -

10 Lyric poem

"- in the Dark"

(simultaneous)

31 Worn-out horse 32 Golcha! 33 Bridge coup 34 Before vision or graph

35 Abstract being

36 Sailor's drink

38 Kind of transit

39 Wide open 44 E.T. and Alf 45 Mold 46 Birdlike 47 Gem

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Yesterday's puzzle solved:

MECCA FATER DASH

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Among the development

Two books examine Jordanian, Palestinian economies

Medicitation Rivers isin devidupin in mene of electrodium money inner, bridge, and the Allied Accountants (a member firm of Arthur Andersen strong and the setting the Co. SC) have just made available Business & Investment in Jordan, a 5-volume book set, and Business & Investment in Palestine, a 2-volume book set which provide insight into the respective economies of the region. The release of these publications, which coincides with Amman Short open the the properties of the properties Economic Summit next week, has already met with much enthusiasm and demand from international husiness organisations the Varieties Ruet, We applomatic community and reabroad, as well as the digional offices in Amman.

A challenging endeavoure involving over 40 authors from Jordan and Palestine. the publications fill a gap created by the lack of contemporary materials temporary materials evolving conditions of the temporary material on the two Arah economies in the aftermath of peace. The books, priced at \$100 each, examine various aspects of the economy from trade, finance and industry to infrastructure, tourism and other

An in-depth analysis is provided for each sector, pointing out potential investment opportunities for the prospective investor in the region.

One volume in each book set has been dedicated to husiness legislation and inceotives which serves as a valuable guide oo doing husiness in Jordan and Palestine. Participants in the summit will find up-to-date information in the books, including the most recent amendments in laws pertaining to business and iovestment. The project was led by a

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Steering Committee of high Steering Committee and caliber individuals who complement each other in knowledge and experience. They

> ☆☆ Dr. Hanna Odeh, Chairman of the Dead Sea Industries Co., former minister of finance;

> * Mr. Hamdi Tahba'. President of the Jordanian Bosinessmen Association, former minister of industry & trade and minister of supply: ** Mr. Rajai Dajani, In-

> ternational business advocate, former mioister of transport and minister of in-* Dr. Maher Sbukri,

> General manager of Amman Bank for Investments, former deputy governor of the Central Bank of Jordan; and ## Mr. Wabib Shair, Senior National Partner, Allied Accountants.

> Overwhelming support came from nearly sixty spoosors from Jordan and Palestine whose contributions made possible the publication of the books.

The launch of these book sets is only the beginning. Rapid social, economic and political developments in this part of the world call for a continuous effort in providing accurate and timely data on the emerging markets of the region. The publications on Jordan and Palestine serve as a stepping stone for an equally challenging second pbase, in which the project's scope will be expanded to cover other countries with updated versions and new

editions. The project is part of an ambitious plan to huild a full-fledged library that would serve as a regional information centre.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET HOUSING BARK CENTER ANNAN - SHORELEAST TELEFRORE: 607171 / 607179

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A review of news from the Arabic press

Government refuses to reduce Saudi company to supply gas debt of Dar Al Sha'ab

months ago, have expressed diappointment for the government's rejection to reduce the debt of the company. Reduction of the deht would enable the liquidation committee to pay the shareholders compensation estimated at between 15 to 20 per cent of their equity. The assets of the company were sold to Al Aswaq shareholders for JD 2.81 million. The Social Security Corporation and the Housing Bank bave agreed to reduce their debts to Dar Al Sha'ab hut the government's refusal prompted some sharebolders to form a committee to follow up the matter with the prime mioister. The liquidation committee said all former employees of Dar Al Sha'ab could ow collect their financial dues (Al Dustour).

Price fixing to remain

**A HIGH-RANKING official denied that the preparatory committee for the Amman economic summit has recommended in a report presented to the Higher Steering Committee that the government was backing away from fixing prices. He said the report did not touch on such a subject nor has there been any recommendation relating to it. The official said that the government does not control prices of inputs and industrial products except for cement and foodstuffs. He added the preparatory committee did not propose any easing of this policy or lifting price fixing regulations and moving towards liberalisation. Jordanian industrialists see that fixing prices of inputs as well as outputs hinder setting up joint venture food industries with foreign investors (Al Aswaq)

Defective goods, products should be returned, Islamic leader says

**ACTING GRAND Mufti Said Hijjawi has ruled that religiously it is not permissible *THE CENTRAL Traffic Committee reto sell products or goods on condition that commended to the Minister of Industry and they are "non-returnable and nonexchangeable." The Islamic leader said the condition was a measure to force a huyer into accepting a product even if it has a hidden areas and the Gaza Strip. The company must deficiency. Yet, the sheikh added, according have no less than JD 10 million capital and to Islamic principles if a product has a should deficiency it could be returned (Al Aswaq). Ra'i).

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cylinders to Jordan

** SHAREHOLDERS in the Dar Al Sha'ab Press, Printing, Publishing and Distributing dan Petroleum Refinery Company with Company, which was liquidated nearly three 150,000 gas cylinders starting early next month under an agreement signed between the two companies. According to a senior official at the refinery, gas consumption doubles from 400 toones a day in summer to 800 tonnes a day in winter. The refinery manufactures and repairs 800 gas cylinders every day

Tenders Department issues booklet on its functions

**THE GOVERNMENT Tenders Department has issued a booklet, in both Arabic and English, containing the regulation and mechanism followed by the department in floating tenders. The booklet will be distrihuted to participants in the summit. The department, in line with instructions received from the Council of Ministers, will coordinate with the associations of the engineers and contractors to hold an international conference where many tenders for projects in the region will be floated. The conference will be open for the participation of all countries in the region. The director, Naser Madadhah said a preparatory committee has been eotrusted to call for the conference and that its preliminary plan will be ready by the end of the month (Al Dustour).

'Call-back' phone calls outlawed

**ACCORDING to an announcement hy the Telecommunications Corporation the "call back" service is hanned in Jordan and any violator will be fined and imprisoned (Al

Company to transport passengers to self-rule areas

Trade the establishment of public shareholding company to transport passengers between Jordan and the main cities in the self-rule should be registered within three months (Al

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| Sterling Pound* | 1.5792 | 7.5797** |
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| Swips Firanc | 1.1285 | 1.1263** |
| French Frauc | 4.8875 | 4,8873** |
| Japanete Yes | 99,95 | 100.13 |
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| Precious Metals | | | | Date: 24/10/199 | |
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| Dutch Gulider | 0.4548 | 0.4571 | |
| Japanese Yen" | 0.7059 | 0.7094 | |
| French Franc | 0.1446 | 0.1455 | |
| Series France | 0.6266 | 0.6297 | |
| Deutsche Mark | 0.5093 | 0.5114 | |
| Sterling Pound | 1,1165 | 1.1219 | |
| U.S. Dollar | 0.7010 | 0.7100 | |

| Сштепсу | Bid | Offer |
|----------------|----------|----------|
| Yekratsi Diser | 1.8620 | 1.8780 |
| Lebesete Lira* | 0.043525 | 0.044550 |
| Small Riyal | 0.1445 | 0.1298 |
| Krwaiti Dixar | 2.5070 | 2.5670 |
| Qutari Riyal | 0.1938 | 0.1945 |
| Egyptian Pound | 0.2020 | 0.2800 |
| Oceani Riyai | 1.8550 | 1.8410 |
| UAE Dichane | 0.1922 | 0.1953 |
| Greek Deschma* | 0.2835 | 0.3275 |
| Cypriot Pound | 1.5335 | 1.5975 |

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and CATERIA CHR THE AND AND THE BOOK THE STREET THE STREET

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Canadian dollar Deutschemarks Dutch guilders Swiss francs Belgian francs French francs Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns Singapore dollars Australian dollars

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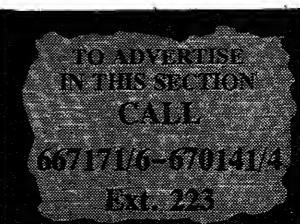
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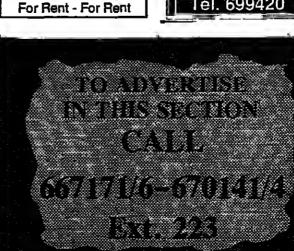
REAL ESTATE











MADRID, Spain (AP) — Finnish driver Juha Kank-kunen grahbed the lead Monday in the rally of Catalunya after the first stage of the three-day road race.

Kankkunen, leading the world rally championship tour, completed the asphalt Catalunya course in one hour, 45 minutes and 13

Driving a Toyota Celica, 'Kankkunen's performance Monday in the Catalunya race, the second to last rally of the tour, showed that the 1995 tour leader may be poised to win his fifth world championship.

Kankkunen is the current tour leader with 62 points. Spaniard Carlos Sainz. driving a Subarn Impreza, finished second, 22 seconds behind Kankkunen.

Third place went to Kankkunen's teammate Armin Schwarz of Germany who completed the first stages' nine special sections — 162.24 kilometres — 38 seconds off the lead.

The three-day rally will wind through Spain's northeastern region of Catalunya covering almost 1,700 kilometres, focused on 23 high-speed timed stages totalling 475 kilometres.

In total, the drivers will compete in 23 special stages. The second and third legs of the rally will be held Tuesday



Juha Kankkunen in his Toyota Celica (AFP photo)

More than 80 drivers from 15 countries are competing in

The rally of Catalunya is the seventh round of the world rally championship.

The final race is Britain's network Q Rac Rally to be

Following Kankkunan in the world rally championship standings is Britain Colin

MeRae with 55 points, and reigning champion Didier Auriol with 51 points.

Arena to be appointed U.S. Olympic soccer coach

WASHINGTON (AP) -Bruce Arena, who guided Virginia to four consecutive men's national Collegiate Athletic Association Championships, is set Tuesday to be appointed coach of the 1996 U.S. Olympic soccer

The U.S. Soccer Federation has scheduled a news conference at RFK Stadium, one of the sites for next year's Olympic tournament. Arena, whose appointment has been well known in the soccer community, is to hold a press conference later in the day.

Arena took over at Virginia in 1978 and has compiled

a record of 287-57-32 in 17plus seasons. Virginia won its first NCAA title in 1989, lost in the quarterfinals the following year and has won the title every year since. Last season, the Cavaliers beat Indiana 1-0 for the cham-

Arena's programme has produced 26 all-Americans and several national players and several national players of the year, including Tony Meola, the goalkeeper on the 1994 U.S. World Cup team, and World Cup team midfielders John Harkes (1990, 1994) and Claudio Reyna

Nigeria invites FIFA to explain cancellation

LAGOS (R) — A FIFA delegation, headed by President Joao Havelange, is to visit Mr. Nwobodo also told reporters that the FIFA officered to the porters of the soccer's ruling body cancelled the staging of the World Youth Tournament in the

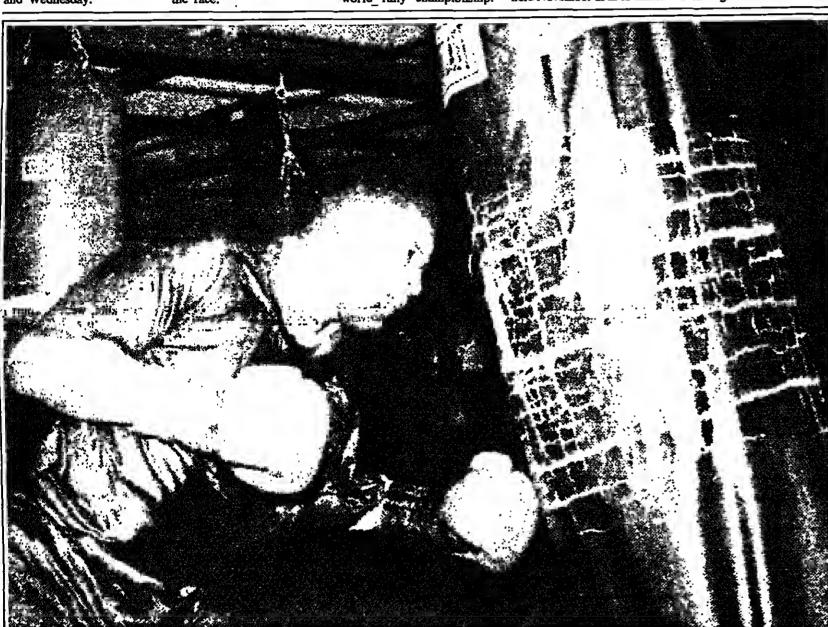
country earlier this year.

Nigerian Sports Minister
Jim Nwobodo said at a news
conference on Monday that
the FIFA team will arrive in Nigeria on November 7 in response to an invitation from the military govern-

They will hold discussions with military ruler General

porters that the FIFA offi-cials will assess the facilities provided by Nigeria for the cancelled tournament and the large sums of money spent.

Despite protests from the Nigerian authorities, FIFA cancelled the tournament scheduled for March because of health fears, saying there were outbreaks of meningitis and cholera at two of the venues, and for security



Buster Mathis of Grand Rapids, Michigan pounds the heavybag at Gleason's Gym in Brooklyn, New York as he trains for his November 4 bout with Mike Tyson (Reuters photo)

U.N.-Rwanda match ends in chaos

match between Ghanaian U.N. troops and a Rwandan team to mark the 50th anniversary of the United Nations ended in chaos on Sunday with fistfights between the referee and rival teams, witnesses said on Monday.

U.N. officials said minor violence erupted when the Rwandan referee awarded a penalty after Ghanaian

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)

Europe have scaled a Hima-

layan peak, the Nepalese

Tourism Ministry said Mon-

The four Frenchmen and

an Austrian elimbed Mount

Amadablam, a 6,812-metre

high peak last week, it said

- Five mountaineers from

attacker from the Rwandan team Circle Sportive, which was leading 3-1.

Tension at a Kigali Stadium increased when the referee sent off Ghana's goalkeeper for handling the ball outside his area.

The Ghanaian were furious, the goalkeeper took a swing at the referee and members of both teams started fighting in the middle

quoting delayed reports from the base camp. The French Amadablam

expedition was led by Gilles

Marcaud, a 33-year-old

mountain guide from Chamo-

nix and Phillippe Raymond, a 39-year-old doctor from Liv-

ry Gargan. They reached the

summit on Tuesday, the

of the pitch hefore the 250 Rwandan spectators joined in. the melee.

Spectators, Rwandan and Ghanaian players started attacking each other. A group of Rwandans even tried unsuccessfully to wrestle away the gun of a Rwanda Patrionic Army soldier watch-

ing the game.
U.N. officials tried to play down the problem, which marred three days of celebra-

Two more members of the

five-member team to reach

the summit are Helene Chas-

tagnol, a 32-year-old nurse

from Rocez and Xavier Chas-

tagnol, a 30-year-old market-ing officer from Monastere. They reached the top of the

peak on Friday with a

Five Europeans scale Himalayan mountain

ministry said.

nons organised by the U.N. assistance misssion in Rwanda of the U.N. anniversary with the focus on fun and

"There was a bit of a scuffle and pushing and shoving. If this was any other game in Britain, no one would care about it," said a U.N. official, who declined to be iden-

The game was abandoned

Nepalese guide Dawa Sher-

Similarly, the leader of the

five-member Austrian Ama-dahlam expendition, Peter

Habeler, a 53-year-old mountain guide from Mayrhofen.

climbed the peak from the

southwest ridge on Friday, it

after U.N. troops intervened. The Gbanaian team was disqualified from the tournament and the Rwandan team qualified for Tuesday's final. officials added.

Up to one million minority Tutsis and Hutu moderates were slaughtered in last year's genocide in Rwanda during which the U.N. Security Council cut the U.N. force to a bare minimum.

said in a statement.

Habeler established Camp-

I at an altitude of 5,700

metres on October 16 from

where he started his final

The names of the other

expedition members were not

On Oct. 15, junior flyweight Restituto Espinilli, 19, died of massive brain

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Jordan Times

S. Korea World Cup chief blasts FIFA over TV rights secrecy of the General Assembly of parency is needed." He said FIFA committees

SEOUL (AFP) — The head of South Korea's 2002 World Cup hid has attacked FIFA for being secretive over TV rights negotiations and accused the international body of undervaluing the event. Chung Mong-Chun said

the negotiations for the multi-million pound deal should be brought out into the open.

The industrialist, who has led South Korea's aggressive battle with Japan to stage the Asia's first World Cup finals, also slammed what he saw as the undervaluation of the TV

Chung said talk of a \$1. billion bid for the 2002 rights was nonsense and should be doubled to \$2 hillion.

"Historically the process and decision making on the tracts has been handled by very few people behind closed doors.

Chung said this must change and "more trans-

must become more involved in the dealing. "I do not propose a burdensome bureaucracy, but more peo-ple do need to be involved if we are to achieve greater transparency," Chung told a meeting of the international sports writers association

"Greater transparency is essential because the World Cup has been financially

change.

"There has already been of all the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and TV rights of the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and the confederations was set up last month to study this marketing and the confederation was set up last month to study this marketing and the confederation was set up last month to study this marketing and the confederation was set up last month to study this marketing and the confederation was set up last month to study the confederation was set up last month to study the confederation was set up last month to study the confederation was set up last month to study the confederation was set up last month to study the confederation was set up last month to study the confederation was set up last month to study the confederation was set up last month to study the confederation was set up last month to study the confederation was set up last month to study the confederation was set amount," he said, pointing out that this would be 20

undervalued. That will also

times the figure for the 1994 FIFA president Joao Havelange was not among the world sports leaders listening to Chung at the meeting held under the aegis

International Sports Federa-tions' (GAISF) annual meet-

Havelange is staying away from the GAISF meeting in Seoul to avoid the lobby bat-tle between South Korea and But a FIFA spokesman in

Zurich said they had aiready started opening up decisionmaking for marketing and

broadcasting rights.
"A working group comprising the general secretaries of all the confederations was

hand over profits to the world body and soccer-playing na-

current budget the donation should be \$78 million, but he was confident it could reach \$300 million.

Boxing claims 20th Filipino victim

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - In the latest tragedy to hit local boxing, a 19-year-old bantamweight died shortly after losing a fight in a southern province, newspapers reported Monday.

Ervin Corpuz collapsed and never recovered after getting badly hattered in the final round of a 10-round bout late Saturday with 18year-old Allan Ilaneta in Polomolok, south Cotahato, 1,024 kilometres southeast of

Corpuz, ranked No. 12 by the Philippine Boxing Federation, reportedly died of hrain hemmorhage.

The reports said he repeatedly signalled that he wanted to quit during the last two rounds but his aides ignored him as the crowd chanted "no surrender."

Corpuz was the 20th local boxerr to die after a fight since 1979 and the second this

hemorrhage two days after losing a 10-round fight with Marlon Carillo in suhurban Paranaque.

Espinili's death prompted one member of the Manila City Council to propose a ban on both amateur and professional boxing in the capital, saying it is a "barharic

Local ring expert and sports columnist Joaquin Henson hlamed the high incidence of boxing-related deaths and injuries to negligent sports officials, who

allow mismatches. He said Espinilli, who won only two of 12 fights, should never have been pitted against Carillo, ranked No. 3 by the Philippine Games and Amusements Board and holder of a 19-8-2 record, 10 of which he won hy knockout.

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Q. 1 - Both vulnerable, as South you hold: The bidding has proceeded: WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH Page Page Page 7 What is your opening bid?

Q. 2 - Both vulnerable, as South you hold: •84 VAKQ7852 OAQ +83 The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
10 Page 14 Page

What do you bid now? Q. 3 - As South, vulnerable, you hold: 473 0762 OK87 +KQJ103 The bidding has proceeded:

WEST NORTH EAST Page 16 Page Page 50 Page

Q. 5 - Neither vulnerable, os South you hold: +Q160 VK 1032 0Q103 +AQ7 The bidding has proceeded: SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1 & Pass 1 V Pass

What action do you take?

Q. 4 - Neither vulnerable, as

South you hold:

Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one spade. What

What do you bid now? Q. 6 · Both vulnerable, as South you hold: 4J10 "AJ1054 .4 4QJ652

The bidding has proceeded:
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
Page 1 a Page
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Arena's programme to all-Americand several national place of the year, including to the coalknesses. Media, the goalkeeperon 1904 U.S. World Cup team not and World Cup team not Light Harkey and works op team mag ders John Harkes (% 1994) and Claudio Re

vites FIFA cancellation

Sani Abacha and the right

Mr. Niwobodo also toky porter that the FIFA of cials will assess the fact provided by Nigena lar. cancelled tournament and large sums of money p

Despite protests from: Nigerian authorities, R cancelled the lourname scheduled for March bee of health lears, saving the were outbreaks of memor and cholera at two of venues, and for sene

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of the General Assemble International Sports Fazz tions' (GAISF) annual as

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But a FIFA spokesman durant and they had after started opening up deam makine for markeng at broadcasting rights A working group con

priving the general storage at the confederators w set up last month to sate gene," she said. Chang also repessed etfor to FIFA that tig

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Ma teenager tricks Wang

BELJING (AFP) - Controversial athletics coach Ma Junren turned the tables on his former star Wang Junxia oo Tuesday when his latest running prodigy, 15-year-old Jiang Po, scored an emphatic win over the double world record-bolder. Jiang set an Asian record of 14min 45.90sec for 5,000m as she beat the 22-year-old Wang, record-holder at 3,000m and 10,000m, by seven seconds at the Inter-City Games in Nanjing. Jiang, who has been coached by Ma for a year, ran the fourth-fastest 5,000m this year, nine seconds outside the world record of Portugal's Fernanda Ribeiro. Wang and most of Ma's other star runners, known as his Army, deserted the coach's Liaoning barracks last year after complaining about his Spartan training methods and claiming he refused to share out prize money. She completed a 5,000m-10,000m double at the Asian championships in Jakarta last month and gets a chance of revenge when she races against Jiang at 10,000m on Thursday. Former world record holder Sun Caiyun cleared an Asian record 4.18m in the women's pole vault, the second-best ever and 3cm below the world record of Daniela Bartova of the Czech Republic.

Boardman beats Obree

PARIS (AFP) — Olympic champion Chris Boardman narrowly defeated Graeme Obree in a four kilometre pursuit opposing the two Britons at the Bercy Sports Arena Monday. Boardman finished in 4 minutes 39.82 seconds, 1.71 seconds clear of Obree, who was forced to change bikes shortly before the race got underway. The reigning world champion and record holder eventually borrowed a bicycle from the Italian team competing in the Nations Cycling Open.

Icelandic striker headed for France

SOCHAUX, France (AFP) — French second division side Sochaux said Monday they had signed Iceland's international striker Arnar Gunnlaugsson, Gunnlagusson, who has bad stints with Nuremberg of Germany and Feyenoord of the Netherlands, has scored 15 goals in seven games for his current side Arkanes in the Icelandic first divison this

Interfly Cantona kite

LONDON (AFP) - Inter Milan's new English coach Roy Hodgson has reopened attempts to sign Manchester United's French star Eric Cantona, it was reported here Tuesday. "We will be going after Eric Cantona," the former Swiss national coach who took over at Inter last week told the Daily Mirror. Cantona was rated at £7 million (\$11.2 million). Inter have litte time to push through their bid as the Italian transfer market reopens for just five days at the start of November. Cantona was suspended for eight months and setenced to 120 hours community service in January after jumping into crowd and attacking a fan who was taunting him at a match in London against Crystal Palace. There was much speculation during his suspension he would go to Inter, who had also bought his United team-mate Paul Ince, but he returned to Manchester against Liverpool on Oct. 1, setting up the first and scoring the equaliser in a 2-2 draw. He played a big part in United's 4-1 win at Chelsea on Saturday and it is difficult to see United manager Alex Ferguson, who has stuck by his wayward French star through thick and through this, fetting him go.

Costa downs Arrese in Heilmann's Cup

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) - Second seed Alberto Costa defeated fellow Spaniard Jordi Arrese 6-4, 7-6 (7-4) in the first round of the Helmman's Cup. Fourth seed Francisco Clavet of Spain, who advanced to the finals of the clay court tournament last year, fell Monday to Brazilian qualifier Jaime Oncins 6-3, 6-2. The other seeded player ousted was No. 6 Bohdan Ulihrach of the Czech Republic who fell to France's Fabrice Santoro, 6-2, 2-6, 6-3. Gilbert Schaller, the tournament's top seed, meets Fernando Meligeni on Tuesday.

Official asks for street name to be changed

LANDSHUT, Germany (AFP) — An assistant mayor of this Bavarian town proposed Monday tht its "Steffi Graf Street" should be renamed because of the tax evasion scandal surrounding the world tennis champion. Werner Zwing, elected on an independent list, proposed the street be renamed after the celebrated German boxer Max Shomeling "who at least contributed something with his life." "With the best will, I cannot imagine that Stoffi Graf did not know what her father was doing with her money. Such sports figures are no example to the youth," Zwing said. The Landshut town council decided in 1988 to name a stretch of road leading to some tennis courts after Steffi Graf, then aged 18, on the basis that she began her career

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Agassi bids to end season with a flourish

ESSEN, Germany (R) — American world No. 1 Andre Agassi has arrived in Europe determined to take his tennis career to new heights in the next month.

The 25-year-old from Las Vegas said on Monday that he wanted to top the rankings at the end of a season for the first time after the current Essen Open and the forth-coming world championship in Frankfurt.

Agassi, who finished last season in second spot, looked lean and fit enough to achieve his goal as he pre-pared for the high quality He is seeded to meet his

main rival and fellow American Pete Sampras in the final of the \$1.8 million tournament, which has attracted all the world top 10 players.

"This fall is a critical time for me," said Agassi. "I hope to finish the year as number one. A major factor will be

whoever plays well here."
After playing a rare doubles match on Tuesday, Agassi — given a first round bye — will begin his cam-paign on Wednesday in a second-round clash with

who cruised past German Bernd Karbacher 6-2, 6-4 in Monday's first round.

The match will mark the American's first appearance on the ATP Tour since he lost to Sampras in the final of the U.S. Open in September. "Of course I like to play

when he plays. He's a player I like to beat," added Agassi. Agassi, Sampras, Austrian Thomas Muster and American Michael Chang are the only four players to have secured their places for the round-robin Frankfurt Championship, which brings together the top eight players

With four more places at stake, many of the top stars have come to Essen in the

in the world.

hope of picking up the vital points for qualification. Germany's former Wimb-ledon champion Boris Beck-er, the world No. 4, will start his bid on Tnesday with a second-round match against Magnus Gustafsson.

The Swede advanced to the second round with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over American Aaron Krichstein on Monday.



Andre Agassi

Juninho granted work permit

MIDDLESBROUGH, England (R) — Brazilian star Juninho was granted a British work permit on Monday and is expected to make his debut for English premier league Middlesbrough at Manches-ter United on Saturday.

After being treated to a carnival welcome - complete with a 50-pice Samba band - by over 4,000 Middiesbrough fans last week, Juninho returned to Brazil to wait for the permit to be issued by the British govern-

"All that remains is for Middlesbrough to obtain international clearance, which will involve negotiations between them and the Brazilian (soccer) Federation," said

English Football Association spokesman Steve Donble on Monday.

"That should take a day or two. I would hope it would be just a matter of a fax here and a fax there."

The news comes as a big boost to Middlesbrough manager Bryan Robson, the former England Captain, who wants his £4.75 million (\$7.50 million) signing from Sao Paolo to play against his old club at Old Trafford. In anticipation of Juninho's

first appearance, Middles-brough have already sold more than 6,000 tickets to fans to see live television coverage of Saturday's match on a giant screen at their

Riverside Stadium. Rebuilding work at Man-chester United's Old Traf-

ford ground has restricted space for visiting supporters.

Robson had been anxiously waiting for news of the work permit and earlier on Monday said Juninho would need to be back in Britain by Wednesday morning to have any chance of facing United.

"Juninho would need to get a good night's sleep to recover from jet-lag and train with the rest of the lads on Thursday and Friday," said Robson.

To be fair to the kid, he cannot just get off a plane on Thursday and be ready for such a big game."

King's former accountant testifies

NEW YORK (AP) - Don King's income tripled to \$60 million after he tooko in theo-boxing heavyweight champion Mike Tyson, but the boxing promoter still would not let his employees sign checks for as little as five cents, his former accountant

Joseph Maffia took the stand Monday as a key witness in the government's attempt to convince a jury that King faked a contract in 1981 to collect \$350,000 from Lloyd's of London after a fight was cancelled.

The former controller for King from 1986 to 1991 tesnfied that King's company, Don King Productions, had annual gross income of be-tween \$10 million and \$20 million before Tyson came aboard in 1986.

He said the annual revennes grew to as much as \$60 million with the arrival of Tyson and the emergence of pay-per-view television. Maffia said King was pleased

"He told me once you were only as good as bow much cash you have." Maffia said.

The accountant said King refused bis suggestions that the flamboyant promoter allow himself or one other employee to sign small checks without his approval.
"He said, 'no," Maffia re-

With that, Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul G. Gadephe showed jurors 21 checks ranging in value from five cents to \$62.22 that had been

signed by King. But it was not just small

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amounts that King cared about, Maffia testified in Federal Court in Manhattan.

The accountant said King once reduced his bonus from \$1,000 to \$700 after Maffia filed a financial document one day late, costing King \$300 in interest. And be said King, one of the most powerful men in boxing, "was livid" after an insurance pany delayed paying \$400,000 for a cancelled Tyson bout.

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to prison for masterminding the Olympique Marseille match-fixing scandal. Tapie has appealed against his two-year prison sentence. one year suspended, for ordering his General Mana-

Tapie back in court to avoid prison

ger Jean-Pierre Bernes to offer three Valenciennes players 250,000 frames (\$50,000) each to throw a match in 1993.

DOUAI (AFP) - Bernard

Tapie went back to court on

Tuesday to try to avoid going

Marseille won the gamme 1-0 to clinch their fifth successive league title and five days later became the first French club to win the European Cup with a Basile Bob header

against AC Milan in Munich. Marseille were banned from defending the European Cap and later demoted to the French Second Division for financial irregularities, for which Tapie is expected to be tried at the beginning of next

Frand squad investigators have reportedly uncovered that 110 million francs (\$22 million) were syphoned off from 1986 to 1993, either to buy matches or referees or for personal gain.
Tapie, declared bankrupt,

is accused of setting up a network of front companies which were paid for fictitious services, or used for diverting television broadcasting rights, advertising revenue and transfer money.

In one case Marseille reportedly paid a Portuguese agent 2.5 million francs (\$500,000) to try to sign the Brazilian World Cup star Bebeto. Nothing came of the move and the then coach Gerard Gili said as far as he knew they never had any intention of signing the play-

UEFA were planning to reopen inquiries into allegations that corruption by Marseille officials was even

PASSPORTS LOST

Jarnail Singh, passport No. R. 960658. Anoop Singh. passport No. L. 918619. 3. Ravinder Singh, passport No. 810277.

4. Harbhajan Singh, passport No. Y. 460570. If you find these passports, please inform the Indian Embassy, Amman.



more widespread than at first reported. Bernes claimed in July the club had spent five million to six million francs (about one million dollars) a year bribing players and referees for both French league and European Cup matches.

Marseille, with debts of 400 million francs (\$80 milbon), are in the hands of the receivers and only 12th in the second division. They won the division last year but promotion was blocked because of their financial posi-

Jacques Mellick, a member

of parliament who perjured himself by giving Tapie a false alibi, went to court on Monday to appeal against a suspended six mooth jail sentence and ban on holding public office for two years for interforing with witnesses.

He allegedly tried to force his secretary to confirm he met Tapic at a time the fortrying to convince the then Valenciennes coach, Boro Primorac, to confess to being behind the attempted matchfixing. Judgement was reserved to

November 28.

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Yeltsin, Clinton leave key **NATO** issues unresolved

President Boris Yeltsin, at a summit that offered harmony but little substance, has managed to keep relations with the United States on track despite not giving an inch in

Mr. Yeltsin ended a threeday trip to the United States on Monday joking with President Bill Clinton as they trumpeted an agreement that obliges them to work together to end the conflict in Bosnia but leaves two open wounds festering.

They failed to agree on terms for Russia to join a peacekeeping force in Bosnia and barely even touched on North Atlantic Treaty Organisation plans to expand in Eastern Europe

"It is still the Russian position, there should be no mistake about it, that President Yeltsin does not feel that Russian troops should be under NATO command," a U.S. aide said.

Instead, the presidents appeared to agree to differ for now in the two key disputes to prevent ties from deteriorating further and to belp Mr. Yeltsin in his battle against nationalists who say Russia's foreign policy is not assertive enough.

"This looks like an agreement for two presidents facing elections," a source close to the Russian delegation

Both Mr. Clinton's and

strains in Russian-U.S. rela-

in neither's favour. The main aim of summits these days is simply to pre-vent relations getting worse." Alexander Golts, a political commentator with the Russian Defence Ministry newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda, told

Reuters.
A Western diplomat added: "Both presidents want a success and want to go home saying something positive about this summit. They cannot afford to let it fail.

Both Mr. Clinton and Mr. Yeltsin painted a rosy picture of relations between the two countries after the summit held north of New York City, belying fears that it would be a failure.

But to achieve this harmony, Mr. Clinton turned a deaf ear to the repeated attacks on NATO that Mr. Yeltsin has made in the last week — including a hard-hitting speech at the United Nations 50th anniversary celebrations on Sunday.

Mr. Clinton's refusal to respond to the attacks allowed Mr. Yeltsin to look strong at the largest-ever gathering of world leaders — a perfect way for the Kremlin leader to prove to nationalists that he is defending Russia's in-

In Sunday's speech, Mr. Yeltsin said Russia would jnin the international peacekeeping force planned

NEW YORK (R) - Russian expire next year and further for Bosnia once peace is restored hut only if it is under a tions are widely thought to be strict U.N. Security Council mandate.

This directly contradicted Washington's demand that the force be under NATO's control, and U.S. aides made clear Mr. Yeltsin had not dropped his opposition despite his and Mr. Clinton's complete agreement" on

Mr. Yeltsin, who visited Paris before arriving in New York, was also boosted by support from France.

President Jacques Chirac urged Mr. Clinton to involve Russia more fully in diplomatic and military efforts to end the conflict in Bosnia, his spokeswoman said.

Mr. Chirac also suggested a wider conference on stability in the Balkans could be held in Moscow early next

Throughout the three-day trip to the United States, Mr. Yeltsin, 64, looked at ease rubbing shoulders with the world's leaders and showed no signs of health problems following the mild heart attack he suffered last July.

He may have raised eyebrows with a flamboyant performance at a joint news conference with Mr. Clinton after their summit, hut there was no doubting his satisfaction with the summit.

When I arrived in the United States, I did not have the degree of optimism with which I am leaving," he said.



His Ruyal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, accompanied by Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath on Tuesday cuts a cake marking the anniversary of the United Nations in a ceremony attended by senior government officials and United Nations representatives (photo by Boghos)

Amman U.N. celebrations highlight need for basic reforms at world organisation "The prime strength of the

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In sharp contradiction to the United Na-50th anniversary. tinns' celebrations held in New York, which witnessed the largest gathering of world leaders in history. Amman's tribute to the world body was modest, gathering some 200 representatives of the Jordanian government, members of the diplomatic corps and employees of U.N. agencies in Jordan. It seemed in keeping with the mood of those addressing the audience.

... A purely self. congratulatory event is mosi certainly not called for," said Jorgen Lissner, U.N. resident coordinator and U.N. Development Programme (UNDP) resident representative in Jordan.

Instead, Mr. Lissner said, the U.N. should take the opportunity to express appreciation and gratitude to member nations for making the institution possible during "half a century of unprecedented progress and unpre-

cedented turmoil." Jordan's contribution has come in dollars, dinars, manpower and military support for peacekeeping forces, Mr. Lissner said, praising the Kingdom for its "staunch

Mr. Lissner was jnined in addressing the audience by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent. and Dr. Haem Beblawi. under-secretary general of the U.N. and executive secretary of the U.N.'s Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

support" for the U.N.

They joined their Western counterparts in calling for organisational reform within the world's premiere international organisation, and reminded their audience that the United Nations is facing a turning point as it enters its second half century.

"Today as we look at the performance of the United Nations in many parts of the world, we cannot but note the distance between the high moral ideals expressed in the preamble of the Charter (of the United Nations) and the reality of civil and inter-state wars, the practice of ethnic and religious exclusion or 'cleansing'... the widening gap between rich and poor. and the lack of political will on the part of those who have the power and means to address root causes," the

Crown Prince said. "The fault lies not with the organisation." the Regent pointed out. "hut with

ourselves. For the United Nations is nothing more than a mecbanism to express our collective international per-

Today, the U.N. faces its worst-ever financial crisis. largely accounted for by nearly \$2.5 billion in overdue budget assessments from member states. In addition to this "strain." said Mr. Lissner, the organisation is further burdened by "unrealistic expectations" from those who "dream of a benevolent world government" and who hope that "(the U.N.) can put an end to man's inhumanity to man."

Another source of strain the narrow-minded and ethnocentric criticism by (those) who see global pluralism as a threat rather than as a tremendous asset for human kind," said Mr. Lissner. "A third source of strain is, indeed, the very real shortcomings of the many entities that make up the United Nations family of organisation."

The situation calls for reflection... reform... and rededication," said Mr. Lissner. Dr. Al Behlawi, who earlier this week frankly described the shortcomings pla-guing the U.N. reminded his audience that the United Na-

tions must, "...in all humility.

acknowledge our strengths.

pointed out. "No other organisation possesses comparable legitimacy. (The U.N.) is recognised as a competent, professional body. These arc valuable assets to be taken into account at the outset of any reconsideration of the role of the U.N." Underscoring the role the

U.N... is its legitimacy." he

U.N. has historically played in the Middle East, he added that any regional peace and economic cooperation would be consolidated by regional institutions. "The U.N. is irreplaceable in our part of the world." he said.

During the assembly, the United Nations and Crown Prince Hassan honoured the families of five Jordanian peacekeepers who died during active duty - Warrant Officer Mohammad Al Amawi, Sergeant Major Hamed Mefareh, Sergeant Major Ismail Ibrahim, Sergeant Saleh Al Zawahreh, and Corporal Seif Al Rawashdeh. "Each of the five

peacekeepers from Jordan who lost his wife while on duty is truly a "shaheed" of the global community." Mr. Lissner said, expressing grati-tude on behalf of the United Nations to Jordanian military men died serving in U.N. peacekeeping forces.

Red crass pla

Obsessed fan guilty of murdering Selena

HOUSTON (R) - An obsessed fan who said she meant to kill herself, not her idol, was convicted Monday of murdering Tejuno singing star Selena. A six-man, six-woman jury deliberated 2 1/2 hours before deciding that Yolanda Saldivar. 35. intentionally shot and killed Selena on March 31 in a Corpus Christi, Texas motel. Ms. Saldivar, who wept and looked back at her mother after the verdict, faces up to life in prison for the crime that her attorneys argued was a accident." "tragic Prosecutors indicated they would ask for the maximunt sentence, but the jury will decide her punishment in another round of hearings starting Tuesday. The verdict touched off a wild celebration in the streets surrounding the courthouse, where the sounds of cheering fans and honking car borns filled the air. The fans, bitter at losing their beloved singer, held up signs that showed they were in no mood for mercy. "Hang the witch," said one.

Thatcher celebrates 70th birthday, again

WASHINGTON (AP) -

Philip Morris underwrote

the bash, but 600 or so guests still forked over \$1,000 each for Monday night's third and final party to celebrate Margaret Thatcher's 70th birthday at Washington's Cavernous, Union Station, The guest list included politicians, actors, socialites and select members of Washington's news media. Rep. Newt Gingrich, Republican speaker of the House of Representatives, and Sen. Phil Gramm, a candidate for the Republican Party's nomination in next year's presidential election, were invited. So was actor Charlton Heston, a champion of conservative political causes who has appeared in a Gramm campaign video. Others on the guest list were former Defense Caspar Secretary Weinberger and his wife: Jeane Kirkpatrick, ex-U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, and television newswomen Diane Sawyer . and Barbara Walters, the mistress of ceremonies. Proceeds — estimated by a British newspaper at \$2.25 million - were to go to the Margaret Thateher Fount dation, established by the former British prime minister to spread her conservative economic gospel tbrough post-Communist Eastern Europe. Lady Thatcher turned 70 on Oet 13. She already celebrated her 70th on Sept. 27 with friends and former colleagues at her old 10

Queen Elizabeth II.

WASHINGTON (AP) -Institution of Oceanography said Monday, "We're having a data feast," Mr. Sandwell and Walter H.S. Smith of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) developed the highly detailed map using data collected by U.S. Navy and

Arafat tries to convince U.S. Jewish leaders of his commitment to peace

NEW YORK (AP) — He had walked the tightrope for years, from Beirut to Tunis to Gaza, and now be was walking in through the crowd, smiling and pumping hands like a politician seeking votes. But these were American Jewisb leaders, and many had spent their adultbood fearing or hating Yasser

ham. Mr. Arafat said Monday in his first meeting with Jewish leaders in the United States. And, since peace is the policy of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) "we are not only cousins, we are part-

To these American Jews, televised pictures of Mr. Arafat talking with his old enemies are no longer shocking. Now, however, he was in the same room. And he was still up on the wire, trying to win over this audience while not losing all the others.

He did not say anything new to the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, stressing instead the problems of peacemaking, especially his own.

As if to illustrate the point, several protesters started yelling before Mr. Arafat could speak.

Crying "shame" and "murderer" they were dragged out the door by security guards. Police arrested David Kalh, Meredith Weiss and the leader of their group, activist Rabbi Avi Weiss. All were charged with disorderly conduct, Kalh and Meredith Weiss were charged with re-

sisting arrest and Kalb was charged with assault for knocking down a detective. Mr. Arafat seemed unruf-

fled. He shook his head to minimise the intended insult. "I can understand all of this." be said, adding that peace would take time.

He said opponents of peace extended to his own movement. Yitzhak Rabin of Israel "is lucky. He has one opposition — I bave many oppositions," he said, getting Mr. Arafat, notoriously

late for appointments since arriving in New York to Address the United Nations. arrived at 2:10 for a 2 p.m. meeting — early, by the standards of gridlocked Manhattan. He wore bis familiar Kaffiyeb and bemedaled military uniform.

Waving a prepared text dismissively, he said, "I am speaking from the heart." He tried throughout his hour talk to establish com-

mon ground between Israelis and Palestinians. "We are paying the price for what was done by the British," he said, referring to Palestine's administrators be-

fore the creation of Israel after World War II. After referring to the Jewish exodus, he said, "you have to understand also our

The andience chuckled at Mr. Arafat's little jokes and otherwise maintained a polite, tense silence — as when he talked about the PLO stand on Israel's right to exist and on the Arab boycott of

Occasionally he was defiant, as when he insisted, "you can't say it's not my

Although the words may have been extemporaneous. Mr. Arafat's audience said they'd heard most before. "I appreciated that he

didn't speak from notes, but he didn't say anything I hadn't heard before," said Rahbi Marla Feldman of Wilmington, Delaware, "A lot of it was not quite satisfying," she said, including Mr. Arafat's claim that Israelis offended hy his use of "jihad" to Palestinian audiences do not understand "our

"Jihad" is generally taken to mean "holy war," but Mr. Arafat said it was used by the Prophet Mohammad to mean reconstruction on the home front after battle.
"That's the problem," said

David Gad-Harf of the Jewisb Community Council of metropolitan Detroit. He speaks in different languagues, literally and figuratively, to his people and the

rest of the world." At first, Mr. Gad-Harf was not sure how to greet Mr. Arafat, "who was responsible for the murders of hundreds of Jews through terrorist acts." But when Mr. Arafat walked to the podium Mr. Gad-Harf got np, acknow-ledging that Mr. Arafat "was willing to spend some time

with us in a busy schedule." So there he was at the age of 41, clapping for a man he'd always regarded as a villain. "I never imagined this," he

U.N. admits it must change to be useful

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - The United Nations marked half a century of existence Tuesday with an admission that the time had come for it to reform and modernize to remain a useful

forum on the world stage. In a 17-point draft of a final declaration for the special assembly, the United Nations said its mission of saving humanity "from the scourge of war" remained as vital today as it was at the end of World War II.

But the declaration, due to be adopted by the special general assembly, admitted that the United Nations required change from within if it were to fulfil that mission. "It is essential that the United Nations itself be reformed and modernized."

the declaration said. The work of the General Assembly ... should be revitalised. The Security Council should, inter alia, be expanded and its working methods continue to be re-

viewed in a way that will further strengthen its capacity and effectiveness."

Some member countries. notably the United States, have charged that the United Nations has become anb unwieldy and unjustifiahly expensive bureaucracy and have demanded that the organisation reform radical-

The United States, the largest financial contributor to the United Nations. bowever, has also heen blamed for failing to pay its dues on time and the declaration also reiterated that critic-

"In order to carry out its work effectively, the United Nations must have adequate resources. Member states must meet, in full and on time, their ohligation to bear the expenses of the organisa-

tion," the draft text said. U.N. reform and expansion of the Security Council have become central points

NEWS IN BRIEF

of dehate on the future of the body and the declaration said both had to occur for the United Nations to remain

useful. "These and other changes, within the United Nations system, should be made if we are to ensure that the United Nations off the future serves well the people in whose name it was established," it

In the declaration, U.N. member states reaffirmed their commitment to easing the pain of the world's poorest people and of ensuring that women play a more equitable role in all aspects df societies in every country.

"Of greatest concern is that one-fifth of the world's 5.7 hillion people live in extreme poverty. Extraordinary measures by all countries, including strengthened international cooperation, are needed to address this and related problems." "We reaffirm that demo-

cracy, development and re-

fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, are interdependent and mutually reinforcing." The declaration also

spect for human rights and

pledged that member states would seek to tighten cooperation in promoting respect for international law and in settling disputes by peaceful means. But despite its call for

change, the final declaration also recognised that the United Nations had done much to smooth international relations and to ease the plight of many.

"The United Nations has helped to shape the very structure of relations between nations in the modern

age.
"Through the process of decolonisation and the elimination of apartheid, hundreds of millions of human beings have been and are assured the exercise of the fundamental right to selfdetermination.

Histradut financial scandal rocks Israeli ruling circles

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — ministers in the dock is not a spood vote-winner," Labour day to indict three former leaders of the Histradrut trade union federation in connection with a financial scandal which has rocked Prime Minister Yitzhak, Rabin's Labour Party.

The three, who include Labour deputy Avi Yeheskel, are accused of embezzling trade union funds to finance the party's campaign in primaries ahead of the 1992 election.

The other two are Histradrut's former secretary general Haim Haberfeld and a former treasurer Arthur Yis-

Transport Minister Israel Kessar, who has also headed Histradrut, may likewise be prosecuted hut police have

yet to make a decision. Labour fears the scandal will undermine its chances of success in the general election of November 1996. The right-wing Likud Party, which is highly critical of the Arab-Israeli peace process, is already edging ahead of

Labour in opinion polls.

deputy Hagai Merom admit-

Histradmt, Israel's largest voluntary organisation with one and balf million members, has been under Labour control for 73 years. A dissident Labour deputy, Haim Ramon, is now ar the belm and in charge of a clean-up operation.

According to press reports, up to \$20 million was embezzled from Histradrut funds.

Mr. Kessar is suspected of using more than \$30,000 of Austrian grants to the trade union federation to finance his own campaign, through the help of Mr. Yisraelovich who was treasurer for 30

"If my head goes on the hlock, then other ministers will follow," warned Mr. Kessar, who insists he is innocent. "I am an honest man and I have behaved according to the procedures which have always been in force at His-

tradrut.' It is precisely that point which wornes Labour lead-"The sight of Lahour ers, given Histradrut's tradi-

favoured candidates.

If its part in the election of Mr. Kessar is shown to be illegal, similar support for other Labour leaders in the past may also come out into the open.

Fears have arisen that Mr. Rabin's government might not survive its final year, as parliament's winter session opened with the Labour Party holding a precarious oneseat advantage.
At a critical time for the

Middle East peace process, the Labour Party controls. just 6I of 120 seats, down two from last month. And even that one-vote edge is shaky, as the two Labour legislators face possibly indictment on corruption charges.

whether the coalition will be able to continue to have a majority," Histradrut ehief Mr. Ramon told the Associated Press. Some Lahour leaders urged Mr. Rabin to call early spring elections instead of

waiting until next November

as scheduled, and seek a

broader mandate for his poli-

"There's a real question

British foreign secretary to visit Beirut

BEIRUT (AFP) — British Foreign Secretary Malcom Rifkind is to visit Lebanon next month as part of a Middle East tour to discuss the peace process and bilateral ties. diplomats said on Tuesday. Mr. Rifkind, due in Beirut on Nov. 7, will also discuss with Lebanese Foreign Minister Fares Bweiz the conference to be hosted by the European Union in Barcelona next month to bolster cooperation between Mediterranean countries. His visit is set to coincide with the reopening of the British cultural institute in Beirut after an eight-year elosure due to the 1975-1990 civil war. The British Council said its reopening showed Britain's "confidence in the rehuilding of Lehanon and the council's willingness to contribute to enhanced political stability for the country and the region." Britain has been at the forefront of European countries seeking a share in Lebanon's multi-hillion-dollar reconstruction drive.

U.N. urges Turkey to stop expulsions

GENEVA (R) - The United Nations refugee agency said on Tuesday it was pressing Turkey to stop threatening Iranian refugees, who now number at least 20, with expulsion. But the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said it had "no confirmation" of Turkish press reports that two Iranian asylum-seekers deported hy Turkey 10 days ago had been arrested upon return to their home country, put on trial and executed. John Horekens, UNHCR director for Europe, was to discuss the issue of Iranian refugees during the day with Turkish government officials in Ankara, an agency spokeswoman said. "The UNHCR is particularly preoccupied with the threat of expulsion which weighs on at least 20 Iranians recognised

as refugees by the UNHCR," she told a news briefing in Geneva. "They are threatened with expulsion by the Turkish authorities on the pretext that they did not suhmit their requests for asylum within the required five days,"

Canadian with gun arrested at Beirut airport

BEIRUT (R) — A Canadian of Lehanese origin was arrested at Beirut airport on Tuesday after a pistol, an axe and a burcher's knife were found in his luggage as he waited to board a plane, legal sources said. They said airport security arrested Mohammad Al Kadiri, a 23-year-old Canadian of Lebanese origin, who was travelling to Canada via London. The pistol was carefully wrapped to avoid detection, the sources said.

Sharansky see Israeli hostility to emigres

TEL AVIV (AP) - Jewish immigrants from the former Soviet Union face deep hostility from veteran Israelis and are often stereotyped as draft dodgers, criminals and prostitutes, immigrant activist Natan Sharansky said Tuesday. "People are encounting a form of libel and antisemitism that they experienced 30 years ago in Russia," said former Soviet dissident Sharansky, who came to Israel in 1986. "Suddenly we feel unwanted." Mr. Sharansky, who is expected to run for Israel's parliament next year, announced a campaign to improve Israeli attitudes towards Soviet immigrants, nearly 600,000 of whom have come to Israel in the past five years. At a news conference, Mr. Sharansky rattled off the stereotypes: Soviet immigrants are prostitutes or criminals with ties to the Russian mafia, they are not really Jewish, they do not serve in the army, and they only come to Israel to exploit the country

New map details ocean floor

Downing St. residence, and on Oct. 17, at London's

posh Claridge's, with

around 200 rich and

famous Britons, including

Scientists using declassified military data have produced a detailed map of the ocean floor that could benefit fishermen, oil and mineral prospectors and climate researchers. "This is a day of celebration," David T. Sandwell of the Scripps European Space Agency satellites.